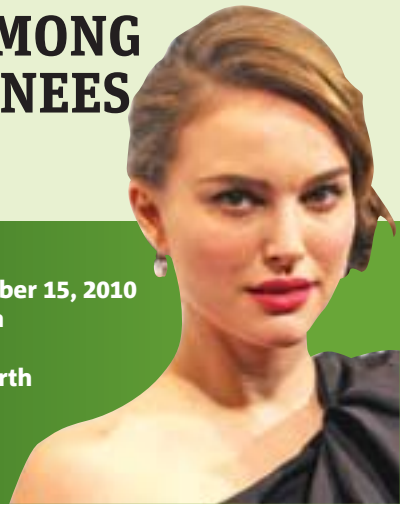
ACCESS LEGAL RESEARCH INC.
CRIMINAL PARDONS/
U.S WAIVER
NO FAULT DIVORCE
DEBT COLLECTION
OPEN SATURDAY BY APPOINTMENT
CALL 403.228.1300

SLOW AND STEADY WINS THE TASTE RACE
PREP NOW, EAT KILLER BRISKET LATER {page 22}



GOLDEN SWAN
PORTMAN AMONG GLOBE NOMINEES
SCENE {page 14}



CALGARY metro®
Wednesday, December 15, 2010
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

Red-letter day in red-tape fight

Mayor said inefficiencies grew organically, are not anyone's fault ◗ Nenshi proposed 'red tape task force' during campaign ◗ Said he plans to follow through

KATIE TURNER/FOR METRO



▶ Mayor Naheed Nenshi addresses City of Calgary staff. He has said he has wanted to do so since the day he was elected.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi stood on the stairs of city hall yesterday to encourage hundreds of city employees to help cut through the red tape.

Nenshi said city employees should be tapped for their ideas on how to streamline business at city hall.

"We have to work at a number of levels simultaneously because changing the culture in such a large organization is not the easiest thing in the world," he said.

"We have to create a grassroots movement among the people that work here."

Community and neighbourhood services employee Leanne Squair said she found Nenshi's speech "uplifting and inspiring."

"I'm happy to hear that he wants us to come to work everyday with the passion that we have and be inspired to be innovative and free-thinking."

Fellow city employee Stephen Persaud, of traffic operations, said he feels freer to speak up now.

"I will surely speak out if something is going wrong," he said.

KATIE TURNER

Assange

Granted bail but still in jail

◗ Swedish prosecutors challenge U.K. judge's decision ◗ Celebrity supporters, including Michael Moore, have put up $380,000 US {page 9}

Berlusconi survives a scare

Italian PM wins confidence votes as violent protests erupt on Rome's streets {page 6}



Donor fatigue? You're not alone

Paul Sullivan on the doggedness of charity drives {page 12}

Christmastime in the U.S.A.

Five destinations to brighten your holiday spirit {page 20}



DASHER'S BACK!

EVERY DAY A CMP CUSTOMER WILL WIN A

Sobeys inc. GROCERY DASH

HOW MUCH CAN YOU GRAB?



PURCHASE A NEW VEHICLE TO AUTOMATICALLY BE ENTERED

2010 Chevrolet Cobalt LT
Very Well Equipped

46 REMAIN

MSRP: $20,745
YOU PAY
$13,745



C101798

2010 Chevrolet Aveo

10 REMAIN

MSRP: $15,400
YOU PAY
$8,995



C101199

2010 Chevrolet Traverse

5 REMAIN

MSRP: $38,540
YOU PAY
$29,995
Includes $1,500 Cash 4 Clunkers Rebate



C100809

2010 Buick Lacrosse

4 REMAIN

MSRP: $34,730
YOU PAY
$26,245
Includes $750 Cash 4 Clunkers Rebate



P100663

2010 Chevrolet Malibu

2 REMAIN

MSRP: $29,080
YOU PAY
$25,745
Includes $750 Cash 4 Clunkers Rebate



C101459

2010 Cadillac CTS Wagon

3 REMAIN

MSRP: $50,670
YOU PAY
$32,995
Includes $3,000 Cash 4 Clunkers Rebate



C100358

Prices do not include taxes, $399 doc fee, errors and omissions exempt.

CMP GM
CHEVROLET Cadillac BUICK GMC

403-539-6004
cmpauto.com

CHEVROLET
BUICK
GMC
Cadillac
CMP

CORNER OF 16TH AVE & 36 ST. N.E.

MONDAY - THURSDAY 8AM-9PM FRIDAY 8AM-6PM SATURDAY 9AM-6PM

AMVIC LICENSED

Minister upset over site violations

Alberta's employment minister says he is disappointed with the number of safety problems government inspectors have found at construction sites. Thomas Lukaszuk says over a six-week period safety officers found more than 200 violations and had to issue 39 stop work orders.

He says to say he is disappointed would be an understatement.

Lukaszuk says he expects better of the industry. Fall hazards, including a lack of proper fall protection, top the list of safety violations.

The department plans to focus inspections on forklifts, young workers and residential construction in the new year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cops step up mall patrols

Local law enforcement groups are joining forces this holiday season to help protect holiday shoppers and the goods they purchase.

The Calgary Police Service, along with Calgary Transit peace officers and bylaw officers, are increasing their presence at several popular shopping centres where car prowlings have been known to increase over the holidays.

Officers will also be reminding shoppers to take theft prevention measures, said Const. Pete Barker.

"When you return to your vehicles with your goods you have just bought, put them out of sight," he said. "Don't give people easy targets."

JEREMY NOLAIS

JEREMY NOLAIS/FOR METRO



▶ Jocelyn Sevinski, 3, gets a lesson on how to operate a sled while aboard a Telus Santa Flight.

Kids on Cloud 9 after flight

Telus partners with Ronald McDonald House to give seven families a trip on private jet Event has been held in Alberta for five years

JEREMY NOLAIS
CALGARY@METRONEWS.CA

It wasn't quite a ride in Santa's sleigh, but it was pretty close.

Families coping with illness journeyed out of the hospital for a day to explore Calgary from the sky alongside jolly old St. Nick as part of the annual Telus Santa Flights event.

The flight left Lethbridge father Steve Hirlehey beaming. His nine-year-old daughter Madison is currently in hospital battling complications from a bone marrow transplant, but was granted a day pass.

"They wanted to get her lungs working a little bit so they thought this would be a good opportunity to get out," he said. "It's just great."

The Hirlehey family has been using services at the Ronald McDonald House for more than four years. The organization provides accommodation for out-of-town families whose children are receiving treatment in hospital.

Representative Kelly Knight said it's important to give families a chance to enjoy themselves during the holiday season.

"Being able to do this is just an experience they will never forget," she said. "It brings a smile to their faces. It's incredibly heartwarming."

Up, up, away

1. Months of preparation go into making the event possible each year.
2. Each of the three flights run yesterday lasted 45 minutes and toured around Calgary and area.
3. Kids were also given presents, got their faces painted and played games with the Clauses.

1 news

Scan code for local news

1. Download the free ScanLife application with your smartphone at 2dscan.com
2. Use the ScanLife application on your smartphone to scan 2D barcodes in Metro
3. The codes will direct your mobile browser to relevant content at m.metronews.ca

On the web at metronews.ca

Penny for your thoughts? Politicians share their opinion of the lowly coin and what they do with their stockpiles. Video at metronews.ca

Follow us on Twitter @metrocalgary

WORLDHEALTH
310-TRIM 8746
www.worldhealth.ca
START TODAY
NO INITIATION AND NO CONTRACT!*
HURRY OFFER ENDS TOMORROW!
*Some restrictions apply

HEALTH

Smoking in cars with kids banned in Leduc

Come next July, it will be illegal for drivers in Leduc to smoke in cars while children are in the vehicle.

The city passed a bylaw Monday that calls for a $100 fine if motorists are caught lighting up when minors are along for the ride.

The penalty jumps to $200 if they're caught a second time.

Dr. Gerry Predy, Alberta's senior medical health officer, says he would like to see more communities in the province follow Leduc's initiative.

Predy says the space inside a car is so small that opening a window doesn't make much difference in the amount of smoke kids are exposed to. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man sought in charity box theft

Brooks RCMP are on the hunt for a man who was caught on camera swiping a charity cash box from a local McDonald's on Dec. 1.

The money was meant to go towards the Ronald McDonald House in Calgary, which houses families of patients at the Alberta Children's Hospital. METRO

Province has plans for police

Solicitor General Frank Oberle has released a plan that calls for police forces in the province to share intelligence and other information more closely.

He says the government is also working on a system to better deal with complaints about police misconduct. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Downtown cab stands to offer late-night rides

KATIE TURNER/FOR METRO



▶ Marc Halat oversees compliance services with the city, which includes the taxi industry, and he said he hopes drivers and Calgarians will embrace the cab-stand project.

◗ Taxi stands will be placed outside 12 bars and restaurants ◗ Service will run from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.

Bar-goers may have an easier time finding a late-night ride home from downtown with the city launching a new pilot project.

After surveying hundreds of Calgarians, Lorna Wallace, project manager for the initiative, said the biggest issue that arose was access to taxis.

"There's two goals: Safety and convenience for patrons and drivers," said Wallace, explaining cabs will queue up outside establishments at designated stands.

"If this works well and works for citizens on the safety and convenience, definitely we would look at options for the next phase."

Kurt Enders, vice-president of Checker Transportation, said the project may take some time for drivers to get used to, but it will benefit everyone in the long run.

"It's going to make it much easier for the drivers to know where the customers are," said Enders. "It's a much safer loading and unloading area."

Wayne Leong, owner of Melrose Café and Bar, said this is something patrons have been asking for for a long time. KATIE TURNER

Details

- The pilot project will run for six months and be re-evaluated before Stampede.
- All cab companies in the city will be welcome to park in the designated areas to pick up passengers.

PURINA

I'm a therapist.



Pets. They're four paws of wonder. To learn more, join the online debate.
Let's talk pets at
pawsway.ca
A Purina Pet Project

Trademarks owned by Société des Produits Nestlé S.A., Vevey, Switzerland.

Health report ranks Alberta near bottom

Frontier Centre report cites wait times Ontario topped rankings for third straight year Alberta ranks seventh out of 10 provinces

JEREMY NOLAIS
CALGARY@METRONEWS.CA

A new report released by the Frontier Centre For Public Policy has found a "sizeable gap" between Alberta's health-care system and that of top-performing Canadian provinces.

The independent organization's 2010 Canada Health Consumer Index, released yesterday morning, ranks Alberta in a tie for seventh out of the 10 provinces and dead-last in the wait times category.

Lethbridge resident Ally Keith knows all too well the frustrations that come with booking a surgery. When she considered postponing an operation in Calgary to have her tonsils removed, doctors told her it could take up to two years to reschedule.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO



▶ Ben Eisen

"I was a little shocked," said Keith, who went ahead with the surgery yesterday. "That's a long time ... I thought, 'I have got to get this done now.'"

Ben Eisen, author of the Frontier Centre report, said Alberta has seemingly made little progress in improving situations like the one face by Keith.

"In the specific case of Alberta, for the eight indicators we looked at for wait times, there wasn't one of them in which Alberta earned a score of good," he said.

10 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT
ONE DAY ONLY!
WED., DEC. 15, 2010
LIZ claiborne
claiborne
99.99 EACH
*ALL WOMEN'S LIZ CLAIBORNE® AND MEN'S CLAIBORNE®
REG. & CLEARANCE PRICED
WOOL OUTERWEAR
While quantities last
ALSO, 50% OFF
SEARS ORIGINAL TICKETED PRICES OF
WOMEN'S AND MEN'S
REG. & CLEARANCE PRICED
FALL & WINTER OUTERWEAR
While quantities last
50% OFF
*ALL WOMEN'S, MEN'S & KIDS' REG. PRICED
BOOTS
50% OFF
*ALL WOMEN'S & MEN'S REG. PRICED
COLD WEATHER ACCESSORIES
LEATHER GLOVES AND WOMEN'S
REG. PRICED FASHION ACCESSORIES
*These savings offers exclude items with prices ending in .97, currently advertised items, reg. priced Columbia® outerwear, Nike® boots and Timberland® 'Reykir' & 'Fauna' boots.
Sears
NE123G610 © 2010. Sears Canada Inc.









4 DAYS ONLY!
DECEMBER 16-19, 2010
LIZ claiborne
ACTIVEWEAR
29.99 EACH, PANTS
39.99 EACH, JACKETS
WOMEN'S LIZ CLAIBORNE® 'COUNTRY CLUB' & 'DIVA' VELOUR ACTIVEWEAR JACKETS AND PANTS
Pants. Sears reg. $60 each. Jackets. Sears reg. $75 each.
ALSO, 35% OFF ALL WOMEN'S REG. PRICED ATTITUDE®/MD ACTIVEWEAR
Sears
NE0123P210 © 2010. Sears Canada Inc.





VISIT **ROGERS.COM/UNLIMITED** FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Offer available for a limited time and subject to change without notice. Early cancellation fees apply. All members on same account must activate on same Family sharing plan. Plans require min. 2 to max. 5 lines. Lines may be added any time. New lines added require primary line be renewed for same period. ***The Government Regulatory Recovery Fee ranges from $1.96-3.45/line/month (varies by province and plan selected).** It is applied to help fund fees, costs and other amounts related to federal, provincial and/or municipal mandates, programs and requirements. **It is not a tax or charge the government requires Rogers to collect and is subject to change.** See rogers.com/regulatoryfee for details. A one-time Activation Fee of up to $35 (varies by province) also applies. Where applicable, additional airtime, data, long distance, roaming, options and taxes are extra and billed monthly. **1.** Compatible device required. Includes unlimited Extreme Text/picture/video messages sent from Canada to Canadian wireless numbers and received texts from anywhere. Sent/received premium texts (alerts, messages related to content and promotions), sent international texts and sent/received Extreme Text/picture/video messages while roaming not included and charged at applicable rates. To learn more about Extreme Text, go to rogers.com/extremetext. **2.** Local calls evenings from 6 pm to 7 am Mon.-Fri. and weekends from 6 pm Fri. to 7 am Mon. © 2010

PIER PAOLO CITO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ A police officer fires tear gas during clashes in Rome yesterday. Thousands of demonstrators marched, smashed shop windows, destroyed bank ATMs and set at least three vehicles on fire.

Violence greets Berlusconi's victory

Down-to-the-wire confidence votes capped hours of tension inside and outside parliament

Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi won back-to-back confidence votes yesterday in the Italian parliament, narrowly surviving one of the toughest fights of his political life. But violent protests greeted his victory, as rioters torched cars, smashed windows and clashed with police.

Riot police fired tear gas to try to disperse the crowds in Rome after earlier trying to cordon off the area around parliament. Clouds of tear gas and orange flares engulfed some streets. Shops full of Christmas goods hurriedly closed down, and employees at one bank cowered in fear as waves of stone-throwing youths swept by.

Tensions inside parliament's lower house had boiled over earlier in the day, as lawmakers pushed and shoved each other, forcing a brief suspension in the voting.

Ultimately, Berlusconi survived the Chamber of Deputies' no-confidence motion by just three votes after a more comfortable victory in the Senate earlier in the day. The outcome of the highly uncertain votes attested to Berlusconi's uncanny ability to survive, even when nearly all indications pointed to a government collapse. Yet it also indicated he will have a difficult time governing, given the narrow margin.

Berlusconi had been weakened after a year dominated by sex scandals, corruption charges against some of his aides and a breakup with a close political ally.

But the 74-year-old battled back, swaying a few crucial lawmakers to vote in his favour.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOLAR SYSTEM

Volcanoes of ice on Titan, say scientists

Scientists said yesterday they have found the best evidence yet of ice volcanoes on Saturn's giant moon Titan.

Unlike volcanoes on Earth, such a volcano on Titan may spew ice and hydrocarbons instead of molten lava.

"We finally have some proof that Titan is an active world," said geophysicist Randolph Kirk of the U.S. Geological Survey, who presented the findings.

The latest evidence comes from the international Cassini spacecraft, which spied two peaks over 3,000 feet tall and what looked like old volcanic flows. Researchers said the landforms resembled Mount Etna in Italy or Laki volcano in Iceland.

There's no sign of volcanic activity on Titan, though scientists are keeping watch.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Immigrant docs faked, consultant charged

A B.C. immigration consultant has been charged under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.

Canada Border Services Agency says Gongyou (Jason) Mo has been charged with seven offences dealing with counselling misrepresentation. Mo also faces a single count of forgery for allegedly making false documents. THE CANADIAN PRESS

HYUNDAI

SMART SAVINGS

YEAR END SALES EVENT

YOUR CALGARY ADVANTAGE
HYUNDAI™
DEALERS PRESENT

0% FINANCING FOR UP TO **84** MONTHS◊

2011 ACCENT L 3DR



GL Sport model shown

NOW SAVE **$1,600**‡

OWN IT FOR ONLY **$161**† MONTH AT **0%** APR/ 84 MOS. WITH **$0** DOWN PAYMENT

STARTING FROM **$13,494**♦

HIGHWAY 5.7L/100 KM – 50 MPG▼

BEST-SELLING SUB-COMPACT IN CANADA∞

2010 ELANTRA L



Limited model shown

OWN IT FOR ONLY **$173**† MONTH AT **0%** APR/ 84 MOS. WITH **$0** DOWN PAYMENT

STARTING FROM **$14,494**♦

Dealer participation of $500 included.

HIGHWAY 5.6L/100 KM – 50 MPG▼

AWARD-WINNING COMPACT

2011 SONATA GL

TURBO NOW AVAILABLE



Limited model shown

LEASE FOR **$299*** FOR 60 MONTHS $2,600 DOWN PAYMENT AT **4.4%** APR/ 60 MOS.

★★★★★ AWARDED THE HIGHEST GOVERNMENT CRASH SAFETY RATING‡ U.S. NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

HIGHWAY 5.7L/100 KM – 50 MPG▼

CLASS-LEADING FUEL ECONOMY▲

2011 TUCSON



Limited model shown

0% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR **60** MOS.◊

AJAC BEST NEW SUV/ CUV UNDER $35K.
AUTOMOBILE JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA
www.ajac.ca

HIGHWAY 6.5L/100 KM – 43 MPG▼

THE AWARD-WINNING COMPACT UTILITY VEHICLE

2010 SANTA FE GL 2.4L MANUAL



Limited model shown

NOW SAVE **$4,000** OFF CASH PURCHASES◊

WAS ~~$25,759~~

NOW **$21,759**††
CASH PURCHASE PRICE INCLUDING DELIVERY AND DESTINATION

BEST-SELLING IMPORT SUV IN CANADA∞

GET THE SMART ADVANTAGE AT ONE OF YOUR CALGARY HYUNDAI DEALERS TODAY



CALGARY HYUNDAI
1920 23rd St. N.E. Calgary,
403-250-9990



PRECISION HYUNDAI
130 Glendeer Cir. S.E. Calgary,
403-538-9536



CROWFOOT HYUNDAI
710 Crowfoot Crescent NW,
403-374-3374



THE HYUNDAI GALLERY
11770 Lake Fraser Dr. S.E., Calgary
403-225-6512

SMART LEASE OFFERS AVAILABLE
Delivery and Destination are included in all prices.

VISIT HYUNDAICANADA.COM TO FIND THE HYUNDAI THAT FITS YOUR LIFE.

5 YEAR WARRANTY
100,000 KM COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY∞

5-year/100,000 km Comprehensive Limited Warranty
5-year/100,000 km Powertrain Warranty
5-year/100,000 km Emission Warranty

YOUR CALGARY HYUNDAI™ DEALERS

GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM

"The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. ♦Prices for models shown: 2011 Accent 3 Dr GL Sport is $17,844, 2010 Elantra Limited is $22,944. Delivery and Destination charges of $1,495/$1,495 are included. Registration, insurance, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, PDE., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ◊Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on new 2011 Accent L 3 Dr 5-speed/2010 Elantra L 5-speed with an annual finance rate of 0%/0% for 84/84 months. Monthly payments are $161/$173. No down payment is required. Dealer participation of $500 for 2010 Elantra L 5-speed is included. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination of $1,495/$1,495. Registration, insurance, PPSA, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, PDE., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. Financing example: 2010 Elantra L 5-speed for $14,494 at 0% per annum equals $172.05 per month for 84 months for a total obligation of $14,494. Cash price is $14,494. Example price includes Delivery and Destination of $1,495. Registration, insurance, PPSA, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. ©1784,000 savings on the cash purchase of the 2010 Santa Fe 2.4L 6-speed manual models is composed of $1,000 price a 5-speed manual models is composed of $1,000 price reduction and $3,000 manufacturer to dealer cash support. Offer subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. ‡Leasing offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on a new 2011 Sonata GL 6-speed with an annual lease rate of 4.4%. Monthly payment is $299 per month for a 60 month walk-away lease. Down payment of $2,600 and first monthly payment required. Total lease obligation is $20,540 Lease offers include Delivery and Destination of $1,565. Applicable license fees, insurance, registration, PPSA, and taxes are excluded. $0 security deposit on all models. 20,000 km allowance per year applies. Additional charge of $0.10/km. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, PDE., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ▼Fuel consumption for 2011 Accent 3Dr (HWY 5.7L/100KM; City 7.2L/100KM)/2010 Elantra L 5-speed (HWY 5.6L/100KM; City 7BL/100KM)/2011 Tucson (HWY 6.5L/100KM; City 9.1L/100KM) are based on EnerGuide fuel consumption ratings. Actual fuel efficiency may vary HWY 5.7L/100KM; City 8.7L/100KM) and 2011 Sonata GL 6-speed manual (7.2BL/100KM; HWY 5.7L/100KM; City 8.7L/100KM). Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. Actual fuel economy ratings will vary based on driving habits and conditions. ▲Fuel economy comparison based on combined fuel consumption rating for the 2011 Sonata GL 6-speed manual (7.2BL/100KM; HWY 5.7L/100KM; City 8.7L/100KM) and 2011 Energuide combined fuel consumption ratings for other full size vehicle sold in Canada. Visit www.oee.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca/fcr-rcf/ for more details. ∞Based on the October 2010 AJAMC report. ASee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions. 5-year/100,000 km Comprehensive Limited Warranty, 5-year/100,000 km Powertrain Warranty, 5-year/100,000 km Emission Warranty, 5-year/100,000 km Roadside Assistance Warranty. Some conditions apply. ◆◆‡‡*Offers available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. Fuel consumption for the 2011 Sonata GL 6-speed manual (7.2BL/100KM; HWY 5.7L/100KM; City 8.7L/100KM) and 2011 Energuide combined fuel consumption ratings for other full size vehicle sold in Canada. Visit www.oee.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca/fcr-rcf/ for more details. ∞Based on the October 2010 AJAMC report. ASee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions. 5-year/100,000 km Comprehensive Limited Warranty, 5-year/100,000 km Powertrain Warranty, 5-year/100,000 km Emission Warranty, 5-year/100,000 km Roadside Assistance Warranty. Some conditions apply. ◆◆‡‡*Offers available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. Fuel consumption for the 2011 Sonata GL 6-speed manual (7.2BL/100KM; HWY 5.7L/100KM; City 8.7L/100KM) and 2011 Energuide combined fuel consumption ratings for other full size vehicle sold in Canada. Visit www.oee.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca/fcr-rcf/ for more details. ∞Based on the October 2010 AJAMC report. ASee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.

Mass rescue in SW Ontario

- Military helicopters used in rescue
- Nearly 300 trapped on road overnight

A family en route to a beach vacation, truckers hauling loads, commuters and even a British hip-hop star unwittingly joined a 300-strong fraternity of snowbound motorists trapped in vehicles overnight as a fierce storm walloped southwestern Ontario.

With everyone believed to have been rescued from snow-swept Highway 402 by late yesterday afternoon, all that was left was a final sweep to make sure no one was missed.

Some 300 people were thought to be stranded when drifting snow and zero visibility forced police to close a 30-kilometre stretch of the highway east of Sarnia on Monday.

Motorists had no option but to hunker down in their vehicles and wait for help.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

300 Drifting snow and zero visibility trapped about 300 people in their vehicles on Highway 402.

GLENN OGILVIE/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Randy Hills of London, Ont., a driver for Doug Coleman Trucking, walks away from his vehicle after police arrive to help on London Line, East of Sarnia, Ont., yesterday.

fido

Unlimited choice

$35 per month No activation fee*
Unlimited incoming calls
› Unlimited local incoming calls
No zone restriction
› Unlimited text messages
including international text
› Unlimited evenings and weekends from 6 p.m.
+ 150 weekday minutes
+ Call Display

$50 per month† No activation fee*
Unlimited talk & text
› Unlimited local calls
No zone restriction
› Unlimited text messages
including international text

Offers end December 31

Plus get your next phone for less thanks to FidoDollars™. Only Fido has so many ways to help you save now and later.

FIDO STORES
Chinook Centre, Calgary
Cross Iron Mills, Calgary
Deerfoot Outlet Mall, Calgary
Market Mall, Calgary
Marlborough Mall, Calgary
Shawville, Calgary
Southcentre Mall, Calgary
Sunridge Mall, Calgary
Westbrook Mall, Calgary
Park Place Shopping Centre, Lethbridge

FUTURE SHOP
BEST BUY
WIRELESSWAVE
booth wireless
WIRELESS etc...
LONDON DRUGS
COSTCO WHOLESALE
Walmart

Switch now! Go to fido.ca/stores for locations in your area or call 1-866-301-3436

Offers subject to change without notice. Additional airtime, long distance, roaming, data, add-ons, provincial 9-1-1 fees (if applicable) and taxes are extra and billed monthly. Local airtime minutes only. Plan includes messages sent from Canada to Canadian, U.S. or international wireless numbers. Messages received from another mobile phone are free. There is a charge for premium text messages. Subject to the Fido Terms and Conditions and Acceptable Use Policy: fido.ca/terms. *Valid on new activations with 2- or 3-year Fido Agreement. A credit for the entire amount of the $35 Activation Fee will appear on your first invoice. †Not compatible with smartphones; Data Add-ons cannot be added to this plan. © 2010

PETER MACDIARMID/GETTY IMAGES



▶ WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange gestures as he arrives at court inside a prison van yesterday in London, England.

Assange waits in jail

Court grants bail, but Sweden appeals release of WikiLeaks founder
Release would include strict conditions Supporters posted bail

A British judge granted Julian Assange bail yesterday but the WikiLeaks founder will remain in custody for at least another 48 hours after Swedish prosecutors said they would challenge the decision.

Assange, a 39-year-old Australian, has already spent a week in a British jail following his surrender to police in a Swedish sex-crimes investigation. He denies any wrongdoing and his lawyers say he plans to fight Sweden's extradition request.

Britain's High Court will hear the Swedish appeal, although it wasn't immediately clear when.

Assange's lawyer, Mark Stephens, said his client's relief at the bail decision had already evaporated, calling it "unfortunate" that "the Swedes won't abide by the umpire's decision."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gas line blamed in hotel blast that killed 3 Albertans

Prosecutors say new evidence suggests a gas-line leak probably caused the Nov. 14 explosion that killed five Canadians and two Mexicans at a hotel on Mexico's Caribbean coast.

The attorney general of the state where the hotel is located says investigators found an unauthorized extension of a gas line under the hotel lounge where the blast occurred.

Attorney General Francisco Alor says the line had apparently been damaged and leaked prior to the blast.

Officials had earlier said an accumulation of swamp or sewage gas may have fuelled the blast.

Alor said yesterday that those may have contributed, but the heating-gas line appears to be the main culprit and may have been set off by a spark from an electric switch or plug.

Five Canadians, including three from Alberta, were killed in the explosion, along with two hotel workers, and 18 others, many of them from Ontario, were injured.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Workers jump to deaths in fire

Dozens of people were killed after a devastating blaze raced through a garment factory that supplies major multinationals such as Gap and JCPenney near Bangladesh's capital Dhaka yesterday.

Many of the dead included trapped workers who jumped from the smouldering building engulfed by flames, witnesses at the scene said.

Monir Hossain, a local journalist at the scene, told The Associated Press the blaze broke out on the two upper floors during lunch break. A gate on a stairwell was locked, trapping people inside the factory, he quoted witnesses as saying.

Interior Minister Shahara Khatun said after visiting the site her ministry would probe whether it was related to recent protests at textile factories over wages.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAZID HOSSAIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ A crowd gathers as smoke rises from a garment factory on fire near Dhaka, Bangladesh, yesterday.



Cutbacks. Slow growth



▶ The Internet company has announced its fourth mass layoff in the past three years.

PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hundreds let go from Yahoo

Yahoo has announced it is laying off between 600 and 700 workers in the latest shakeup triggered by the Internet company's lacklustre growth.

Forestry sector will profit this year: Report

Industry hit hard in the recession ◐ Wood products exports expected to have grown by 2.4% in 2010

The forestry industry will return to profitability this year due to a mini-boom in the Canadian housing market, a slight improvement in U.S. demand, and growing exports to China, a report by the Conference Board of Canada says.

"After three years of losses, a surge in prices and demand lined up favourably early this year for the industry," said Jacqueline Palladini, an economist at the Conference Board.

Canadian production likely grew by 10.6 per cent in 2010, according to the Conference Board's latest review of the industry. Revenues are increasing this year for the first time since 2004. Despite rising costs, the industry is expected to post a profit of $476 million in 2010. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Housing is key

The Conference Board predicts the industry's rebound will continue in 2011, but the pace of growth will slow.

- **A slowdown** in the Canadian housing market next year will reduce the number of new homes being built and could hurt demand.
- **Uncertainty** in the U.S. housing market also remains a key concern.
- **The American housing market** improved slightly in 2010, but demand remained in flux due to a weak economic recovery.

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar
– 15.78 (13,280.08)	+ 0.11¢ (99.35¢ US)

Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft
– 33¢ US ($88.28 US)	$4.255 (– 16.5¢)

Gold contracts $1,404.30 (+ $6.30)

ARE YOU WILDLY ENERGETIC, CREATIVE AND LOVE TO MEET NEW PEOPLE?

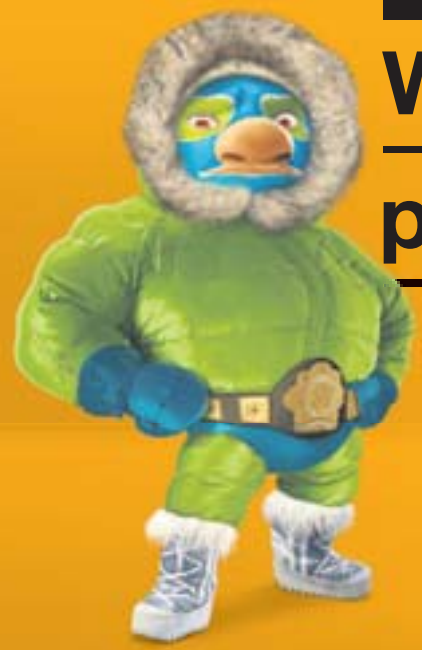
WE WANT YOU!!!

WE NEED STREET PROMOTERS TO DISTRIBUTE NEWSPAPERS TO MORNING COMMUTERS

Great Wage • Meet New People • No Experience Needed

thinkbox

If you are interested in joining the street promotions team, please email your resume to khamilton@thinkboxnational.com



Why not try an unlimited plan on for size?

Unlimited Incoming Plus Combo
Unlimited Incoming Calls[1]
Unlimited 6pm Evenings & Weekends[2]
Unlimited Messaging[3]
Up to 150 Anytime Minutes
Call Display Included
$35 Per Month

UNLIMITED NO ZONE COMBO
Unlimited Local Calling[1] with No Zones
Unlimited Messaging[3]
$50 Per Month

Koodo mobile

Offers end December 31, 2010.

Good call

BEST BUY FUTURE SHOP LONDON DRUGS Walmart

(1) Incoming calls subject to long distance charges when you are outside your local calling area. (2) Unlimited calling within your local calling area from 6pm to 8am, Monday through Thursday, and from 6pm Friday to 8am Monday. (3) Includes international text and picture messages sent and received within Canada. Excludes premium messages or subscription based messages. Picture messaging not supported on the BlackBerry® Curve™ 8530 smartphone.

Koodo shop

Calgary: Chinook Centre, Deerfoot Mall, Market Mall, Marlborough Mall, Southcentre Mall, Sunridge Mall
Lethbridge: Park Place Shopping Centre
Red Deer: Bower Place
Rocky View: CrossIron Mills

YEAR-END SALES EVENT

BRING HOME HOLIDAY SAVINGS TODAY ON 2011 MODELS.

0% FINANCING ON SELECT 2011 MODELS*

UP TO **$8,500** IN FACTORY REDUCTIONS^Ω

2010 FRONTIER KING CAB XE 4X2

Have fun with the most interior space in its class.

Step rails • Tonneau cover • 4x4 Sport and 4.0L DOHC graphic 152-hp, 4-cylinder engine and 171 lb-ft torque • 3,500 lbs towing capacity • ABS and Electronic Brake force Distribution (EBD) Nissan Advanced Airbag System with Supplemental Curtain Side Impact Airbags • Available 261-hp, V6 engine and 281 lb-ft torque

NO CHARGE SPORT PACKAGE†

PRO-4X KING CAB MODEL SHOWN▲ www.nissan.ca/frontier



SELLING PRICE **$17,999**^ FACTORY REDUCTIONS, FREIGHT AND FEES INCLUDED

FACTORY REDUCTION **$7,000**Ω INCLUDES $1,000 IN SELECT CUSTOMER DISCOUNTS

0% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR UP TO 36 MONTHS*

★★★★★ 5-STAR RATING FOR SIDE-IMPACT CRASH SAFETY†

"HIGHEST RANKED MIDSIZE PICKUP IN INITIAL QUALITY IN THE U.S." - J.D. Power and Associates[2]



2011 TITAN KING CAB S 4X2

It's a whole new way to move.

Class-leading Standard Engine[3]: 317-hp, 5.6-litre V8 and 385 lb-ft of torque • Longest crew cab bed in its class – 2.2 m (7'3")[4] • 6,500 lbs towing capacity • 18" alloy wheels • Factory applied spray-in bedliner w/available Utili-Track™ channel system • Nissan Advanced Airbag System with Curtain Side Impact Airbags w/Rollover Sensor and Front Seat Supplemental Side Airbags

SELLING PRICE **$26,999**^ FACTORY REDUCTIONS, FREIGHT AND FEES INCLUDED

FACTORY REDUCTION **$8,500**Ω INCLUDES $2,000 IN SELECT CUSTOMER DISCOUNTS

0% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR UP TO 36 MONTHS*

SL CREW CAB MODEL SHOWN▲ www.nissan.ca/titan

2011 PATHFINDER S

Leave no adventure unchallenged.

266-hp, 4.0-litre V6 engine and 288 lb-ft torque • 6,000 lbs towing capacity • All-Mode 4WD® with 2-speed transfer case • ABS, Electronic Brake force Distribution (EBD) and Vehicle Dynamic Control (VDC) Nissan Advanced Airbag System with Curtain Side Impact Airbags and Rollover Sensor and Front Seat Supplemental Side Airbags Available RearView Monitor



SELLING PRICE **$35,999**^ FACTORY REDUCTIONS, FREIGHT AND FEES INCLUDED

FACTORY REDUCTION **$3,000**Ω INCLUDES $1,000 HOLIDAY BONUS

0% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR UP TO 36 MONTHS*

LE MODEL SHOWN▲ www.nissan.ca/pathfinder

ALSO GET GREAT OFFERS ON REMAINING 2010 MODELS.=

VISIT YOUR LOCAL NISSAN RETAILER TODAY OR nissan.ca FOR DETAILS

1% PREFERRED CUSTOMER RATE REDUCTION AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE RETURNING CUSTOMERS■

AMVIC licensed. *0% financing for up to 36 months available on 2011 Sentra/Versa Hatch/Altima (excluding Hybrid)/Rogue/Xterra/Pathfinder/Armada/Frontier/Titan and 2010 Frontier models. Representative finance example based on Selling Price of $17,999 for 2010 Frontier KC 2.5 XE 4X2 (2KLG50 AA00) financed at 0% APR for 36 months equals $361.08 per month with $5,000 down payment or equivalent trade-in. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $17,999. Factory reduction ($6,000), select customer discount ($1,000), freight and PDE charges ($1,500), air-conditioning tax ($100) and certain fees where applicable (ON: $5 OMVIC fee and $29 tire stewardship fee, AB: $20 tire recycling fee, AB: $20 tire recycling tax) are included. License, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax) are extra. Finance offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Retailers may sell for less. Offers valid between December 1st, 2010 and January 3rd, 2011. ^$7,000/$8,500/$3,000 in Factory Reductions, Holiday Bonus and Discounts, $6,000/$5,000/$2,000 Factory Reduction and $0/$1,500/$1,000 Holiday Bonus is based stackable trading dollars and varies by model. Additional Conquest/Loyalty Discounts of $1,000/$2,000/$0 apply to current Nissan owners and current pick up truck owners only. Current Nissan or Conquest vehicle must be 2000MY (Model Year) or newer and must be licensed and insured in Canada for the consecutive six month period immediately prior to the purchase or lease of a new or demo 2010 Frontier / 2011 Nissan Titan. Conquest vehicle can be any competitive (non-Nissan) pick up truck or SUV. Current Nissan vehicle must be registered in the owner's name for the consecutive six month period immediately prior to the purchase or lease of a new or demo 2010 Frontier / 2011 Nissan Titan. Loyalty vehicle can be any Nissan vehicle that is registered in the owner's name for the consecutive six month period immediately prior to the purchase or lease of a new or demo 2010 Frontier / 2011 Nissan Titan. See dealer for details. Selling Price is $17,999 for a new 2010 Frontier 2.5 XE 4X2 (2KLG50 AA00), automatic transmission ($24,999 for a new 2011 Titan S 4X2 (1KAG71 AA00), automatic transmission/$35,999 for a new 2011 Pathfinder S (5CPS71 AA00), automatic transmission. Factory Reduction & Customer Discounts ($7,000/$8,500/$3,000), Freight and PDE ($1,500/$1,570/$1,580), air-conditioning tax ($100) and certain fees where applicable (ON: $5 OMVIC fee and $29 tire stewardship fee, AB: $20 tire recycling fee, AB: $20 tire recycling tax) are included. License, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax) are extra. Finance offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Retailers may sell for less. Offers valid between December 1st, 2010 and January 3rd, 2011. ΩSelling Price for a new 2011 Titan CC SL 4X4 (3CFG71 AA00), automatic transmission/$43,752 Selling Price for a new 2011 Titan CC SL 4X4 (3CFG71 AA00), automatic transmission/$36,662 Selling Price for a new 2011 Pathfinder LE (5CTG71 AA00), automatic transmission. Factory Reduction & Customer Discounts ($7,000/$8,500/$3,000), Freight and PDE ($1,500/$1,570/$1,580), air-conditioning tax ($100) and certain fees where applicable (ON: $5 OMVIC fee and $29 tire stewardship fee, AB: $20 tire recycling fee, AB: $20 tire recycling tax) are included. License, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax) are extra. Finance offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Retailers may sell for less. Offers valid between December 1st, 2010 and January 3rd, 2011. ΩΩSelling Price for a new 2010 Frontier Pro-4X 4X4 (4KVG50 AA00), manual transmission/$27,832 Selling Price for a new 2010 Frontier 2.5 XE 4X2 (2KLG50 AA00), manual transmission/$24,999 for a new 2011 Titan S 4X2 (1KAG71 AA00), automatic transmission/$35,999 for a new 2011 Pathfinder S (5CPS71 AA00), automatic transmission. Factory Reduction & Customer Discounts ($7,000/$8,500/$3,000), Freight and PDE ($1,500/$1,570/$1,580), air-conditioning tax ($100) and certain fees where applicable (ON: $5 OMVIC fee and $29 tire stewardship fee, AB: $20 tire recycling fee, AB: $20 tire recycling tax) are included. License, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax) are extra. Finance offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. Retailers are free to set individual prices. No Charge Sport Package consists of step rails, tonneau cover, 4x4 sport and 4.0L DOHC graphic. All accessories and graphics are installed at dealer. See dealer for details. ▲Actual mileage may vary with driving conditions - use for comparison only. Government star ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). Star ratings are based on frontal and side crash tests and rollover resistance. Visit www.safercar.gov for more information. ■Based on 2010 Nissan Titan, Toyota Tundra CrewMax, Chevrolet Silverado CC, GMC Sierra CC, Dodge Ram 1500 CC, Toyota Tundra CrewMax). ●Preferred Customer Program: If you currently lease or finance your Nissan vehicle through us, you may already be pre-approved to lease or finance your next new Nissan model. 1% Preferred Customer Reduction currently available on the 2010 Sentra, Rogue, Maxima and Altima (except Hybrid) models. Please contact your Nissan Dealership for Nissan Canada Finance pre-approval terms and eligibility. Incentive program rate adjustments cannot reduce the lease or finance rate below 0.0%. ^^Model shown $27,832 Selling Price for a new 2010 Frontier Pro-4X 4X4 (4KVG50 AA00), manual transmission/$43,752 Selling Price for a new 2011 Titan CC SL 4X4 (3CFG71 AA00), automatic transmission/$36,662 Selling Price for a new 2011 Pathfinder LE (5CTG71 AA00), automatic transmission. Factory Reduction & Customer Discounts ($7,000/$8,500/$3,000), Freight and PDE ($1,500/$1,570/$1,580), air-conditioning tax ($100) and certain fees where applicable (ON: $5 OMVIC fee and $29 tire stewardship fee, AB: $20 tire recycling fee, AB: $20 tire recycling tax) are included. License, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax) are extra. Finance offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Retailers may sell for less. Offers valid between December 1st, 2010 and January 3rd, 2011. ΩΩSelling Price for a new 2010 Frontier 2.5 XE 4X2 (2KLG50 AA00), manual transmission ($24,999 for a new 2011 Titan S 4X2 (1KAG71 AA00), automatic transmission/$35,999 for a new 2011 Pathfinder S (5CPS71 AA00), automatic transmission. Factory Reduction & Customer Discounts ($7,000/$8,500/$3,000), Freight and PDE ($1,500/$1,570/$1,580), air-conditioning tax ($100) and certain fees where applicable (ON: $5 OMVIC fee and $29 tire stewardship fee, AB: $20 tire recycling fee, AB: $20 tire recycling tax) are included. License, registration, insurance, duties and applicable taxes (including excise tax and fuel conservation tax) are extra. Finance offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers. Retailers are free to set individual prices. Retailers may sell for less. Offers valid between December 1st, 2010 and January 3rd, 2011. ΩΩSelling Price for a new 2010 Frontier 2.5 XE 4X2 (2KLG50 AA00), manual transmission/$

TIRED OF THE ENTIRE GIVING PROCESS

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN



At the risk of sounding like Scrooge, I have a theory why charitable donations are down.

There's a new U.S. study showing that charitable donations fell 3.2 per cent in 2009, and wealthy households dried up the most: A whopping 34.9 per cent. You can hear those change purses snapping all the way across the border.

My theory is we're exhausted by the charitable donation industry, and the more money we have, the more exhausted we are.

Wherever we go, whatever we do, there's a hand sticking out in front of our faces.

Seasonal charities: Every carol concert requires you to bring a non-perishable food item.

Charitable panhandlers: Those young men and women with clipboards stationed on every street corner on Earth, cheerfully ambushing you for Greenpeace, the Red Cross, Amnesty International, the World Wildlife Fund, etc.

Call centre charity: You want how much for what?

Rock star charity: Endorsed by Bono.

If you manage to avoid all those opportunities, you turn up at the checkout stand and the clerk asks if you want to add a few bucks for the World Yak Relief Project (WYRP). Hey, I'm in favour of yaks. Just not here. Just not now.

So it's no surprise that in the above-mentioned report, the main reason for the decline is that charities are asking too often and for too much money.

"OK, I admit I'm feeling guilty and sheepish and vile ..."

One altruistic impulse can wed you to a charity for life. Actually, it's easier to get a real divorce than it is to part ways with the WYRP.

If you give to yak relief, it's not long before all the other endangered or even just annoyed animals are calling, spamming, junk-mailing and stalking you for a donation. Tigers 2.0 lurk in the shadows of your in-basket or leap out of your mailbox, and they're just as eager to take a bite out of your hide.

OK, I admit I'm feeling guilty and sheepish and vile, but charities need to understand the accumulated impact of their frenetic campaigning is donor fatigue. If the frequency goes up, the amount goes down, according to Einstein.

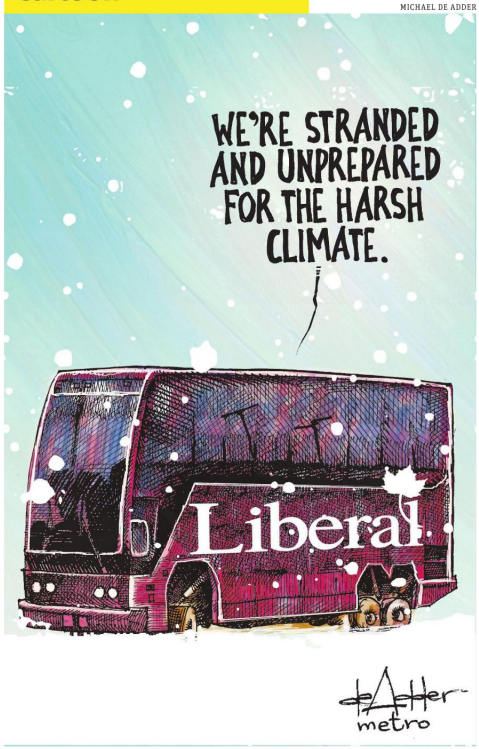
We can't go back to the beginning and start all over again, but this year, I'm thinking of suspending all other donations, finding one little kid who seems particularly needy, and handing him (or her) a pile of cash.

And if it all gets spent on bubble gum and comic books, at least the kid will be happy while it lasts. Can't say the same thing about the yaks.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER



Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

Worth mentioning

Bethlehem has seen a record number of tourists this year and its thousands of hotel rooms are fully booked for Christmas week, thanks to steadily declining violence in the West Bank over the past few years.

It's a welcome bit of good news in a period that is otherwise gloomy, with a U.S.-led Israeli-Palestinian peace effort appearing to have run aground.

So far this year, 1.4 million tourists have visited the traditional birthplace of Jesus and 90,000 are expected during the Christmas season, a significant increase over last year, according to Israeli government figures.

Holy Land

TARA TODRAS-WHITEHILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The town's 2,750 hotel rooms are booked solid for Christmas week and four more hotels are under construction. The expected turnout for Christmas week is up strongly from about 70,000 last year.

The Bethlehem they find may be different from what many expect: For one thing, Christians have lost their majority: More than two-thirds of the 50,000 Palestinian residents are Muslim.

Still, the town does its best to take advantage of its place in Christian history, going so far as to link the Christmas nativity story to the fact that it houses the West Bank's best maternity facility.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

What's your favourite Christmas carol?

Email
calgaryletters@metronews.ca
Twitter
@metrocalgary

Metro has the right to edit letters and submissions.

metro

METRO CALGARY • Unit 120, 3030 - 3 Avenue NE, Calgary, AB T2A 6T7 • T: 403-444-0136 • Fax: 403-539-4940
Advertising: 403-444-0136• adinfocalgary@metronews.ca • calgary_distribution@metronews.ca
Publisher Steve Shrout, **Managing Editor** Darren Krause, **Advertising Sales Manager** Chris Mackie, **Distribution Manager** Dave Mak
METRO CANADA: Group Publisher Bill McDonald, **Editor-in-Chief** Charlotte Empey, **National Deputy Editor** Fernando Carneiro, **Associate Managing Editor** Tarin Elbert, **Scene/Life Editor** Dean Lisk, **Asst Managing Editor** Amber Shortt, **Art Director** Laila Hakim, **Nat'l Sales Director** Peter Bartrem, **Interactive/Marketing Director** Jodi Brown

Metro Minute with indoor skating

Village Square Leisure Centre is inviting families indoors for an evening of skating. For less than $12, a family of four can hit the ice for 90 minutes of fun beginning at 7 p.m. Skates and helmets are available to borrow, and hot chocolate will be provided for attendees.

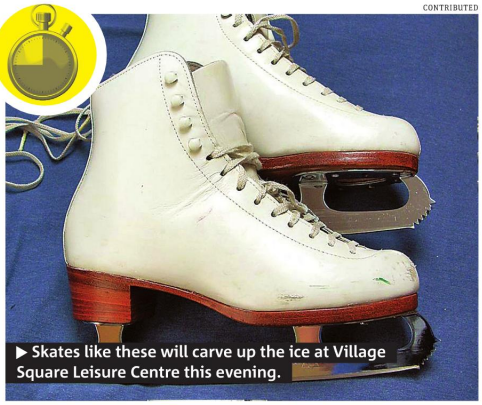
Those looking for something a little more competitive can try their hand at shinny hockey, held at the centre on weekdays. Each 90-minute session costs $6 and begins at noon with 6:30 a.m. openings also offered Mondays and Fridays.

Village Square Leisure Centre is located at 2623–56 St. NE.

For more information, call 403-366-3900.

METRO

CONTRIBUTED



▶ Skates like these will carve up the ice at Village Square Leisure Centre this evening.

ROGERS™ authorized dealer

CALGARY

Deerfoot Meadows
(403) 253-1800
Northland Village
(403) 247-8415
Marlborough Mall
(403) 248-5554
(403) 235-6779
Chinook Plaza
(403) 252-2227
Macleod Trail Co-op Shopping Centre
(403) 287-0870
2015 32 Ave. NE
(403) 291-6801
Shawnessy Shopping Centre
(403) 254-6901
Marda Loop
(403) 974-3150
Gulf Canada Square
(403) 561-3831
Petro-Canada Centre
(403) 532-5994
Beacon Hill
(403) 295-8006
South Trail Crossing
(403) 257-6655
Crowfoot Crossing
(403) 215-7300
17th Avenue Village
(403) 974-3150
Beddington Towne Centre
(403) 216-9363
Centre Mall
(403) 230-3380
London Town Square
(403) 219-2113
Aspen Landing
(403) 727-2019
City Plaza
(403) 263-7595
Okotoks
(403) 995-9349
TD Square
(403) 571-7760

ROGERS plus

CALGARY

Beddington Towne Centre
(403) 295-6446
Forest Lane Shopping Centre
(403) 248-6464
Millrise Plaza
(403) 256-2015
Centre Street
(403) 277-7750
Southwood Corner
(403) 255-0202
Trans Canada
(403) 235-2121
Spring Hill Village
(403) 288-1441
London Place West Shopping Centre
(403) 246 7333
5244 Falsbridge Gate NE
(403) 280-5533
5005 Dalhousie Dr. NW
(403) 215-2505
5149 Country Hills Blvd. NW
(403) 215-2500
2525 Woodview Dr. SW
(403) 281-3381
Douglas Square at Deerfoot
(403) 203-0626
8303 Fairmount Dr. SE
(403) 252-5533
Market Mall
(403) 202-0200
Sunridge Mall
(403) 280-5151
Chinook Centre
(403) 253-0229
Southcentre Mall
(403) 225-6593
North Hill Centre
(403) 202-1801
Deerfoot Mall
(403) 275-3500



VISIT **ROGERS.COM/HDPHONES** FOR MORE INFORMATION.

ROGERS™ authorized dealer · ROGERS plus · «WIRELESSWAVE» · WIRELESS etc... · COSTCO WHOLESALE · FUTURE SHOP · sony style · booth wireless · BEST BUY · Walmart

*Offer available Nov 5, 2010 and subject to change without notice. Not all products available at all locations. *Dell Streak $149.99 and Samsung Galaxy Tab $539.99; each with new activation on any 3-yr. term voice and data plan. Taxes extra. Early cancellation fees apply. © 2010

2 scene

The King's Speech leads Golden Globe contenders with seven nominations, including best drama and three acting honours ◐ Glee leads TV contenders with five nominations ◐ Ceremony will air live Jan. 16 on NBC ◐ Here's a look at the nominees



▶ Jane Lynch is nominated for best supporting actress for her role as Sue Sylvester on Glee.



▶ Colin Firth is up for a best dramatic actor prize for The King's Speech.

Who's up for the 2010 Golden Globes

BEST PICTURE, DRAMA
- Black Swan
- The Fighter
- Inception
- The King's Speech
- The Social Network

BEST PICTURE, MUSICAL/COMEDY
- Alice in Wonderland
- Burlesque
- The Kids Are All Right
- Red
- The Tourist

BEST TV SERIES, MUSICAL/COMEDY
- 30 Rock
- The Big Bang Theory
- The Big C
- Glee
- Modern Family
- Nurse Jackie

BEST ACTRESS, TV DRAMA
- Julianna Margulies, The Good Wife
- Elisabeth Moss, Mad Men
- Piper Perabo, Covert Affairs
- Katey Sagal, Sons of Anarchy
- Kyra Sedgwick, The Closer

BEST TV SERIES, DRAMA
- Boardwalk Empire
- Dexter
- The Good Wife
- Mad Men
- The Walking Dead

BEST ACTOR, TV MUSICAL/COMEDY
- Alec Baldwin, 30 Rock
- Steve Carell, The Office
- Thomas Jane, Hung
- Matthew Morrison, Glee
- Jim Parsons, The Big Bang Theory

BEST ACTRESS, TV MUSICAL/COMEDY
- Toni Collette, The United States of Tara
- Edie Falco, Nurse Jackie
- Tina Fey, 30 Rock
- Laura Linney, The Big C
- Lea Michele, Glee

BEST ACTOR, TV DRAMA
- Steve Buscemi, Boardwalk Empire
- Bryan Cranston, Breaking Bad
- Michael C. Hall, Dexter
- Jon Hamm, Mad Men
- Hugh Laurie, House



▶ Hollywood's second-highest film honours, the Globes traditionally were a solid weather vane for predicting which films might triumph at the Oscars — but the last six Golden Globes ceremonies have bucked that trend.

BEST ACTOR, DRAMA
- Jesse Eisenberg, The Social Network
- Colin Firth, The King's Speech
- James Franco, 127 Hours
- Ryan Gosling, Blue Valentine
- Mark Wahlberg, The Fighter

BEST ACTRESS, DRAMA
- Halle Berry, Frankie and Alice
- Nicole Kidman, Rabbit Hole
- Jennifer Lawrence, Winter's Bone
- Natalie Portman, Black Swan
- Michelle Williams, Blue Valentine

BEST DIRECTOR
- Darren Aronofsky, Black Swan
- David Fincher, The Social Network
- Tom Hooper, The King's Speech
- Christopher Nolan Inception
- David O. Russell, The Fighter

BEST ACTOR, MUSICAL/COMEDY
- Johnny Depp, Alice in Wonderland, The Tourist
- Paul Giamatti, Barney's Version
- Jake Gyllenhaal, Love and Other Drugs
- Kevin Spacey, Casino Jack

BEST ACTRESS, MUSICAL/COMEDY
- Annette Bening, The Kids Are All Right
- Julianne Moore, The Kids Are All Right
- Anne Hathaway, Love and Other Drugs
- Angelina Jolie, The Tourist
- Emma Stone, Easy A

BEST TV MINISERIES/MOVIE
- Carlos
- The Pacific
- Pillars of the Earth,
- Temple Grandin
- You Don't Know Jack

BEST ANIMATED FILM
- Toy Story 3
- The Illusionist
- How to Train Your Dragon
- Despicable Me
- Tangled

Scene in brief



The Social Network has racked up another slew of pre-Oscar awards, this time from the Toronto Film Critics Association, which has crowned it best picture of the year.

The drama about the creation of Facebook scored five prizes from the critics group, including best director for David Fincher, best actor for Jesse Eisenberg, above, best supporting actor for Armie Hammer, and best screenplay for Aaron Sorkin.

The Toronto Film Critics Association presents its awards Jan. 12.

Its other winners include How to Train Your Dragon for best animated feature, Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives for best foreign-language film, and Exit Through the Gift Shop, which claimed best first feature and the Allan King Documentary Award.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For more Golden Globe coverage, scan this code or visit metronews.ca/scene. Learn how to scan on page 3.

HOME PHONE LINES
SAVE UP TO $500.00 A YEAR

IMAGINE what you could do with the SAVINGS!

CALL NOW!



HOME PHONE LINE | Only $14.95 / Month

FREE Caller ID
FREE Call Waiting
FREE Voice Mail

AND MUCH MORE!

OUR HOLIDAY OFFER
CALL TODAY AND GET:

6 MONTHS FREE!

www.comwave.ca

comwave®

403-451-5800

HOME PHONE LINES. VoIP 911 has certain limitations versus traditional 911. The rate of $14.95 is based on a 2 year term. Month to Month plans are available for only $5 per month more. 6 Months Free / You have a 90-day Satisfaction Guaranteed FREE trial period. If you are not 100% satisfied, you may cancel your Phone service anytime within the 90 days with no further obligation. Terms and conditions apply, see www.comwave.ca for details.

YOU COULD WIN A PRIZE PACK FROM THE MOVIE THE FIGHTER!



IN THEATRES DECEMBER 17, 2010

THE PRIZE PACK CONTAINS:
• A FIGHTER GYM BAG • A FIGHTER HOODIE
• A FIGHTER WATER BOTTLE
• PRODUCT FROM EVERLAST
• A RUN OF ENGAGEMENT PASS FOR TWO TO SEE THE FILM IN THEATRES!

VISIT clubmetro.com TO ENTER

To register and for full contest details visit clubmetro.com

It's never over unti

There was no singing But thousands did flock to watch Oprah film shows for her final series outside Sydney Opera House



Oprah Winfrey, left, poses with actor Russell Crowe while sailing on Sydney Harbour.

For a few hours, Sydney swapped opera for a little Oprah.

Thousands of shrieking, jubilant fans flocked to the Sydney Opera House on Tuesday to watch TV talk show queen Oprah Winfrey tape two star-studded shows for her final series.

There were celebrities, giveaways and screams-a-plenty as 6,000 Oprah devotees jammed the steps of the landmark arts centre in Australia's biggest city for the filming.

The production marked the finale of her weeklong trip, accompanied by 302 U.S. audience members who took part in Oprah's Ultimate Australian Adventure.

Winfrey's staffers whipped the already frenzied crowd into a tear-drenched state of hysteria before the host ascended the stage to the sounds of Men At Work's Down Under, Australia's unofficial anthem.

"HELLOOOO AUSTRALIAAAAA!" she bellowed as the audience's roar reached a deafening pitch. "Now I understand why you call Australia 'Oz,' 'cause we truly are at the end of the yellow brick road!"

Winfrey launched her 25th and final season of The Oprah Winfrey Show in September by surprising her audience with her ultimate giveaway: an eight-day trip to Australia.

For the past week, the lucky chosen have been travelling the continent — snorkeling the Great Barrier Reef, surfing at Sydney's famous Bondi Beach and exploring the rugged Outback.

Winfrey, famed for her giveaways, had plenty up her sleeve, including a

Service Directory
To advertise contact Blaine Schlechter at 403-444-0136

LEGAL

Canadian Legal Resources Centre Inc.
403-229-2774 • www.canadianlegal.org
UNCONTESTED DIVORCE
Legal Separation Agreements
Spousal Land Transfers
CRIMINAL RECORD?
Canadian Pardons • US Travel Waivers
Fingerprinting
21+ years experience.
Voted #1 Paralegal. Why pay more?
Open Monday to Saturday.

FINANCIAL

NEED MONEY?
✓No credit checks
✓Fast approvals
Call 1 866 499-5629
And get cash now!!
www.mynextpay.com

500 loan service
by phone, no credit refused, quick and easy, payable over 3, 6, or 12 installments.
Call toll free:
1-877-776-1660
www.moneyprovider.com

PSYCHICS

MYSTIC EYE SPIRITUAL READINGS
57 YEARS EXPERIENCE
100% Guaranteed Results
Come in today for a better tomorrow
SPECIALIZING IN REUNITING LOVED ONES
REMOVES ALL BAD LUCK SPELLS AND NEGATIVE ENERGY
1/2 price SPECIAL
Palm • Tarot • Energy Readings
403.228.2258 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
SOLVE ALL PROBLEMS OF LIFE

MR. HADY
SPIRITUAL PSYCHIC HEALER
Reuniting Loved Ones
Success In Life, Gambling
Court Cases
Remove Spells, Protection
Guaranteed Paid After Results
403-554-9245

ADMITTING YOU WANT TO WIN PRIZES & GET GREAT DISCOUNTS IS THE FIRST STEP.
JOIN CLUB METRO TODAY!
CLUBMETRO.COM

LASIK MD
Celebrating 20 years of LASIK
LASER VISION CORRECTION
Starting at
$490/eye*
Dr. Richard Léger
MD, FRCSC
40 000 procedures
20th Anniversary Financing
$0 DOWN
$0 PAYMENTS
0% INTEREST
LASIK NOW, PAY IN 2012!†
FREE Consultation: 1-877-554-9888 • www.lasikmd.com
CALGARY: 734, 7th Avenue SW, Suite 900
* Prices are subject to change without prior notice. Prices vary based on prescription strength. Applicable to surgery on both eyes only. † Subject to Desjardins Card Services credit approval. Patients must reserve their procedure before January 15, 2011 and complete their surgery by February 28, 2011 in order to be eligible. Applicable to Advanced Custom Wavefront treatment on both eyes only. Cannot be combined with any other offer.
CONSUMER CHOICE AWARD 2010
Halifax | Montréal | Ottawa | Toronto | Winnipeg | Edmonton | Vancouver

l the fat lady...

GEORGE BURNS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



$250,000 check for a cancer-stricken Australian man and his family, who have been struggling to pay their bills.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Off to Oz

When you can watch:

- **On television** Four shows from Winfrey's Aussie adventure will screen in January and are expected to be watched by millions of people in 145 countries.
- **First guest** Her first guest was Australian actor Russell Crowe.
- **Another guest** During the taping of the second episode, actor Hugh Jackman hurt his eye while rappelling from the top of the Opera House onto the stage.
- **Locals upset** The state and federal governments have spent around $5 million on the trip, a price that has drawn criticism from some Australians. But officials and Winfrey herself insist the shows will bring many millions more in tourism publicity.

RBC Royal Bank®

12 DAYS OF HOLIDAY FINANCIAL TIPS



TIP #8: TRAVEL PREPARED

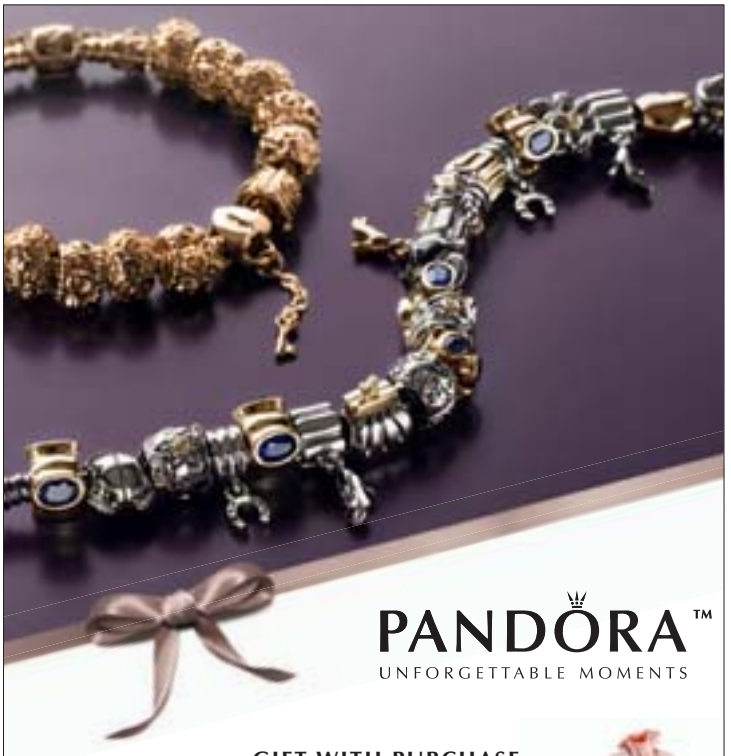
If you're traveling outside the country, get some local currency before you leave. You could save on exchange rates, and save time while you're away.



For more holiday financial tips, go to rbc.com/holidaytips

Advice you can bank on™

® Registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada. RBC and Royal Bank are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada. ™ Trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada.



PANDORA™
UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

GIFT WITH PURCHASE
NOVEMBER 26TH–DECEMBER 31ST
Receive a PANDORA sleigh ornament with your PANDORA purchase of $100.*
*GOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER.



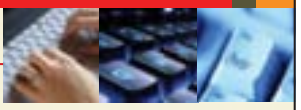
BOW VALLEY JEWELLERS
MAIN FLOOR • BOW VALLEY SQUARE
205–5 AVENUE SW • MON-FRI: 9–4:30

U.S. Pat. No. 7,007,507 • © • All rights reserved • PANDORA-JEWELRY.COM • PANDORA.NET

CCIS

Looking for
Low Cost Computer Training?

COURSES OFFERED:



- **Introduction to Computers - 3 Hour (FREE)**
  Wednesday, 6:00-9:00 (January 12, 2011) - Saturdays, 9:00-12:00 (January 29, 2011)
- **Windows XP & Internet/Email**
  2 Saturdays, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (February 5 & 12, 2011)
  4 Evenings, Mondays and Wednesdays 6:00- 9:00 pm (January 17, 19. 24 & 26, 2011)
- **MS Word 2007 (Foundation)**
  3 Saturdays, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (January 29, February 5 & 12, 2011)
  6 Evenings, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:00 - 9:00 pm, (Fabruary 1, 3, 8, 10, 15 & 17, 2011)
- **MS Excel 2007 (Foundation)**
  3 Saturdays, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (January 29, February 5 & 12, 2011)
  6 Evenings, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:00 - 9:00 pm (January 18, 20, 25, 27, February 1 & 3, March 1, 3, 8, 10, 15 & 17, 2011)
- **MS Access 2007 (Foundation)** *Saturdays, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (February 26, March 5 & 12)*
  6 Evenings, Tuesdays & Thursdays 6:00-9:00 pm; Open Date
- **MS Publisher 2007** *2 Saturdays, 9:00 am -3:00 pm (February 12 & 19, 2011)*
  4 Evenings, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:00 - 9:00 pm (January 4, 6, 11 & 13, 2011)
- **MS PowerPoint 2007** *2 Saturdays, 9:00 am -3:00 pm (February 26 & March 5, 2011)*
  4 Evenings, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:00 - 9:00 pm (December 14, 16, 21 & 23)
- **Keyboarding** *(Now using new software) for only $95!!!*
  2 Saturdays, 9:00 am -3:00 pm (February 26 & March 5, 2011)
  4 evenings, Mondays & Wednesdays, 6:00-9:00 pm (January 17, 19, 24 & 26, 2011)
- **MS Office (Word, Excel & Access Advanced)**
  Saturdays, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm (March 19, 26 & April 2, 2011)
  6 Evenings, Tuesdays & Thursdays 6:00-9:00 pm; (Open Date)

Calgary Catholic Immigration Society
3rd Floor, 120 - 17th Avenue SW, Calgary AB T2S 2T2
T: 403.515.5866 // 403.262.2006 F: 403.262.2033
www.ccis-calgary.ab.ca // hoc@ccis-calgary.ab.ca

Partial funding for this program provided by Alberta Advanced Education and Technology through:

CALGARY LEARNS

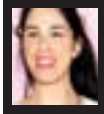
Celebrity tweets



50 Cent [@50cent] Why people keep saying I got jungle fever. I ain't never even kissed a white women. Lol



Russell Brand [@rusty rockets] Today I am 8 years clean.



Sarah Silverman [@SarahKSilverman] Its gross when someone says they're starving but they have food in their teeth



Kathy Griffin [@kathy griffin] Today I am on my way to Palm Springs to do 2 shows tomorrow. Hmm I wonder if there are any gay people there?

Scarlett, Ryan split: Reports

- Reynolds recently became the first Canadian to snag People magazine's 'sexiest man alive' title
- Johansson was named GQ's 2010 'babe of the year'

Reports say that Canadian leading man Ryan Reynolds and his bombshell wife, Scarlett Johansson, have separated.

The Hollywood power couple married in September 2008 in a private ceremony at a remote British Columbia resort.

The gossip website TMZ features a short entry stating the duo are living apart and that "it's amicable."

Meanwhile, a source close to the couple tells Us Weekly that Johansson initiated the split about two weeks ago and that the couple have decided to end their marriage.

The 34-year-old Vancouver-born hunk is poised to star in one of the most buzzed about films of 2011, The Green Lantern.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Scarlett Johansson

Miley's antics have Dr. Drew concerned

After a video showing Miley Cyrus smoking a bong hit the Internet, Dr. Drew Pinsky is worried about the Disney star, he tells Access Hollywood.

"We know that she's going to be acting out now because her family's in trouble, so it's not unusual to see depression manifesting as various kinds of acting out behaviours," Pinsky says.

"If I had a child that was doing that or if I was advising a parent, I would say get professional help immediately."

METRO



▶ Dr. Drew Pinsky

Pitt's kids rule the set

Keith Middlebrook, who co-stars with Brad Pitt in the upcoming Moneyball, says it was clear who was in charge of the set on their movie: Pitt's six kids, who often came to the set to visit their dad.

"There were toys and there were kids everywhere," Middlebrook tells Us Weekly. "We didn't really hang out because he had the kids."

METRO

Cage's rage caught on tape in Romania

Nicolas Cage flew off the handle while in Romania to film his latest Ghost Rider film, and his entire 5 a.m. tirade was caught on tape, according to the Daily Mail.

While most of what Cage screams at an unidentified man is unintelligible on the video, he's heard yelling, "You want to kick me in the head? Go for it," before storming off, only to return moments later and continue yelling.

Cage was eventually escorted away by bodyguards.

METRO

Take his advice at your own risk, Billy

Michael Lohan thinks he can offer some advice to Billy Ray Cyrus, who is currently dealing with a nasty divorce battle and a daughter, Miley Cyrus, who keeps popping up in the tabloids. "Divorce does mess up kids," Lohan tells Popeater.

"But divorce can work if both parents try to get along and don't use their children as pawns. Ask any professional about that, especially Dina [Lohan]! She knows all about using kids as pawns and dragging them into her dirt."

METRO

Teen girls, start your engines

High School Musical co-stars Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens have called it quits after four years together, according to Gossip Cop.

The split was "amicable" and came about once the pair acknowledged their relationship "wasn't going to go further."

When asked by Details earlier this year about being in a relationship, Efron said, "Believe me, I wrack my brain thinking, 'Why am I not out there playing the field?' One of my buddies was like, 'You have no idea what's going on right now. You're peaking on Ecstasy and you're watching TV.' But it's not in my heart."

METRO







FREE XBOX 360®*

Offers like this make other offers jealous.

Get a FREE Xbox 360®* with the purchase of a Windows® Phone 7, only at TELUS. Limited time offer from December 15 to 19.





FREE Xbox 360®*

LG Optimus™ 7

$99.99 | $499.99
3 year term | No term
SAVE $400

HTC 7 Surround™

$99.99 | $449.99
3 year term | No term
SAVE $350

telusmobility.com/xbox

TELUS
the future is friendly®

TELUS AUTHORIZED DEALERS

CALGARY NORTHWEST

Beacon Hill Centre
Dalhousie Station
Market Mall
North Hill Centre
Northland Village Mall
822 Crowfoot Cres. NW
207 14th St. NW

NORTHEAST

Country Hills Town Centre
CrossIron Mills
Deerfoot Mall
Marlborough Mall
Pacific Place
Sunridge Mall
1353 32nd Ave. NE
2520 23rd St. NE
2000 McKnight Blvd. NE
323 - 2555 32nd Ave. NE

SOUTHWEST

Bankers Hall
Bow Valley Square
Chinook Centre
Southcentre Mall
TD Square
Westbrook Mall
Westhills Towne Centre
6039 Centre St. S
835 17th Ave. SW
245 - 225 7th Ave. SW
16061 MacLeod Trail S
264 - 6100 MacLeod Trail S
1 - 4623 Bow Trail SW
203 - 321 6th Ave. SW
5 - 2008 33rd Ave. SW

SOUTHEAST

Dragon City Mall
Quarry Park
South Trail Crossing
TELUS Convention Centre
856 - 33 Heritage Meadows Way SE
1288 42nd Ave. SE
7845 Flint Rd. SE
4410 50th Ave. SE
3012 17th Ave. SE
109S - 8500 MacLeod Trail S
4949 Barlow Trail SE

Okotoks

181 - 31 Southridge Dr.
118 Elizabeth St.

Strathmore

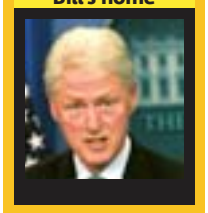
8 - 55 Wheatland Trail
103 - 331 3rd Ave.

For more details on these great offers, visit your TELUS authorized dealer or telusmobility.com or call 1-866-264-2966.

*Offer available December 15 to 19, 2010, while quantities last, for clients (new and renewal) who activate a Windows Phone 7 device on a 3 year term with a Clear Choice voice and data rate plan of $50 or greater. TELUS, the TELUS logo, the future is friendly and telusmobility.com are trademarks of TELUS Corporation, used under licence. Microsoft and Windows Phone are trademarks of the Microsoft group of companies. Xbox and Xbox 360 are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and other countries. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. © 2010 TELUS.

3 life

Bill's home



The home in Hope where Bill Clinton spent the first four years of his life will officially be a national historic site as of Jan. 2.

Organizers worked for years to earn the status for the Clinton First Home Museum on Hervey Street. More than 80,000 visitors from 159 countries have toured the two-storey, wood-frame home since it opened as a museum in 1997.

The museum won approval last year to become part of the National Park Service.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



History of Montreal's Ste-Catherine Street on display in museum exhibit

Christmastime in the United States

Heading south for the holidays? If so, there are plenty of great places to visit to get you in the holiday spirit, from lighting festivals to Cinderella's Castle

FLICKER: MESHMAR2



Walt Disney World Orlando, Florida

At Walt Disney World in Orlando, it's Christmas through Jan. 3. Cinderella's Castle is lit up with 200,000 white lights and Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party, a ticketed event certain evenings through Dec. 19, features twice-nightly Christmas parades plus live shows, carollers and more.

Other holiday happenings include a "Holidays Around the World" showcase at Epcot through Dec. 30, where storytellers share their heritage. Epcot also hosts a daily gospel performance through Dec. 26, and the Candlelight Processional featuring a choir, orchestra and a celebrity narrator retelling the Christmas story, through Dec. 30.

HANDOUT



Mission Inn Hotel & Spa Riverside, California

The Mission Inn Hotel & Spa, at 3649 Mission Inn Ave., is hosting its annual festival of lights through Jan. 2.

Visitors will find a dazzling 3.5 million lights, a tree, carollers, and animatronic elves, angels and other characters in 17th-century costumes. The display is free and open to the public; the hotel also has holiday overnight packages starting at $199.

The festival spills out into the city of Riverside with lights and decorations all over town as well as an outdoor skating rink in the main street pedestrian mall near the historic hotel.

For more details visit missioninn.com.

HANDOUT



Universal Studios Hollywood, California

At Universal Studios, cast members from Glee and other celebrities will read Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas and take part in nightly lightings of a Grinchmas tree, beginning Dec. 11 and 12 and continuing daily Dec. 18 through Jan. 2.

The celebration includes a field of snow where families can build snowmen, as well as visits to the set where the Grinch movie was filmed aboard Universal's Studio Tour, and photo ops with the Grinch and his dog, Max. Tickets, packages and hotel deals at universalstudioshollywood.com or universalorlando.com.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Biltmore House Asheville, North Carolina

In North Carolina, the historic Biltmore House is celebrating Christmas through Jan. 2 with 150,000 lights, carollers, holiday cooking and decorating demonstrations, wine-tastings and a lit-up 17-metre Norway spruce on the front lawn.

Biltmore's original owner, George Vanderbilt, first opened the home to friends and family on Christmas Eve 1895 for what became an annual Christmas Party. Biltmore recalls the era with Candlelight Christmas Evenings featuring performances by ballroom dancers in vintage costumes and choirs. Details at biltmore.com.

HANDOUT



Galt House Hotel Louisville, Kentucky

A brand-new attraction called KaLightoscope opened this season in Louisville, Ky., at the Galt House Hotel on 140 N. Fourth St.

The walk-through pavilion of lighted holiday sculptures is divided into 12 holiday-themed sections including "Toyland," the "Christmas Tree Maze," "The Lighted Forest," and "The Nativity" among others.

The attraction is open through Jan. 3; tickets are from $14.95 to $17.95. Details at KaLightoscope.com. Other holiday offerings at the hotel include a Christmas dinner show and events with Santa in a life-size gingerbread village.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From Manhattan to Salt Lake City, X-mas is everywhere

If the above American Christmas destinations don't appeal to you there are plenty of other great options to consider.

Le Parker Meridien hotel at 119 W. 56th St., in Manhattan also hosts a gingerbread house display, with creations by local pastry chefs and bakeries. The theme of the gingerbread creations this year is "Movies Made in New York," with King Kong and West Side Story among the films represented.

In Salt Lake City, Utah, Temple Square is decorated with hundreds of thousands of lights and a life-size nativity scene. Less than 60 kilometres away in Ogden, you'll be transported to Santa's North Pole village with lights, cottages and Santa's castle.

Another town with holiday lights is McAdenville, N.C., where a half-million lights are strung on nearly 400 fir trees. The display started with a few lights in the 1950s but has evolved into a major attraction with support from a local manufacturer, Pharr Yarns.

Bethlehem, Pa., hosts a popular holiday market called Christkindlmarkt which offers handmade works, live music, ice carving and glassblowing demonstrations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


Adventure!
Teach English Overseas
> TESOL Certified in 5 Days
> In-Class or Online
> No Degree Required!
1.888.270.2941
Job Guaranteed!
Next in-class course: Feb 9th - 13th
www.globaltesol.com
GLOBAL TESOL COLLEGE
Travelodge University Hotel
2227 Banff Trail NW, Calgary

TRAVEL CUTS
Grand Paradise Playa Dorada, Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic
Includes: return air, accommodation, buffet meals, 2 a la carte dinners, unlimited drinks, nightly entertainment, selected non-motorized water sports.
$1,279* | 7 nights
Departs Feb 17, 2011 from Calgary NOLITOURS
Book Your Reading Week Vacation And Get a FREE Rough Guide*
Come in or call today.
travelcuts.com
University of Calgary, 180 MacEwan Student Centre 403.282.7687
*CDN$, pp, dbl occ. Additional: taxes $328. Other dates and points of departure available, prices may vary, please contact us for details. *Selected dates. Must have an ISIC to qualify. ON–4499356/4499372 | BC–33127/34799/34798 | QC–7002238 | Canadian owned.

playTODAY
@COP
403.247.5452
wnsportcanada.ca
PROGRAMS STARTING FROM $49

Las Vegas gets a new hot spot

U.S. recession has hurt sin city, but new hotel Cosmopolitan hopes things will be turning around

The last major Las Vegas resort approved before the Great Recession will have to lure thousands of gamblers from established neighbours to survive after it opens today.

The $3.9-billion US Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, built by a German investment bank after its original developer defaulted, may have the hippest-ever TV commercials: Over a garage-rock soundtrack with a jazzy interlude, guests with crafty smiles stray across a landscape of shiny dance floors, soothing guest rooms and tables laden with food and drink.

But the 2,995-room Cosmopolitan is entering a market that's struggling. And analysts say that just to cover its debt, it will need to do better than even the top-performing Bellagio, its neighbour to the north with 3,933 rooms and the same amount of casino space as Cosmopolitan.

"If you take a look at everything that's opened in recent years, these properties have all struggled out of the gate," said Bill Lerner, an analyst with Union Gaming Group. "I'm not sure why this will be different."

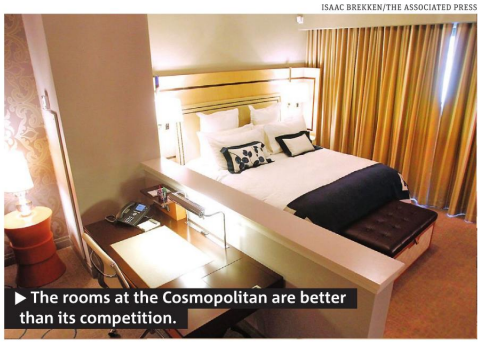
Tourism to Las Vegas has increased from the woeful days of 2008 and 2009. And Lerner says the Cosmopolitan will get significant help from being owned by Deutsche Bank, which gave the project far lower interest rates and better terms than usual for commercial loans.

The Cosmopolitan's insides are designed to make people gawk. Video-screen columns cycling moving art greet visitors in the lobby. Across the resort, guests can sip cocktails inside a three-storey chandelier. And its 13 restaurants (including an unmarked pizza joint) will offer world-class cuisine to please any New York foodie. But the Cosmopolitan's biggest trump on the competition might be its rooms, most of which offer spacious terraces with incomparable views of Las Vegas. Most were planned as condominiums — big and with kitchenettes.

The resort has enough gambling space to fill almost two football fields, with some spots offering slot-side bottle service. It'll have just a handful of baccarat tables to start, even though the generally high-stakes game has held its popularity through the recession; Unwin said the Cosmopolitan's gambling business will adapt to its customers.

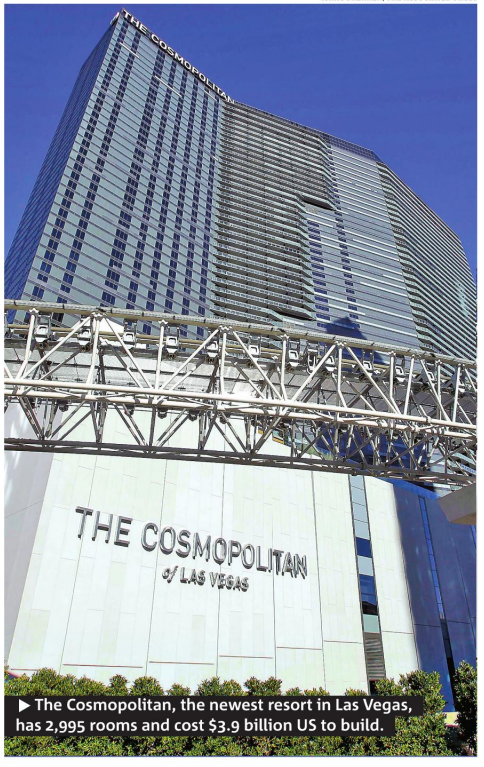
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISAAC BREKKEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ The rooms at the Cosmopolitan are better than its competition.

ISAAC BREKKEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ The Cosmopolitan, the newest resort in Las Vegas, has 2,995 rooms and cost $3.9 billion US to build.



WITH AN OFFER LIKE THIS, THERE'S NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO JOIN THE CREW.

Everyone's idea of the perfect *Disneyland* Resort vacation is different.
That's why we've got vacation options to suit just about any taste and budget!

Save up to 35%*

on a 2-night stay or longer at a *Disneyland* Resort Hotel!

For stays in a standard room most nights 1/2/11–4/13/11.

Hurry and book through 2/19/11!

Just visit **disneyland.ca/offer** or call **866-60-DISNEY** or your Travel Agent.

Disneyland Resort in California

*35% savings based on the non-discounted price for the same room at *Disney's Grand Californian Hotel* & Spa. Must stay two (2) consecutive nights. Offer valid for arrivals 1/2/11–4/13/11. Blockout Dates of 1/14/11–1/15/11 and 2/18/11–2/19/11 and other restrictions apply. Applies only to standard and concierge-level rooms and not valid with previously booked rooms. Other room rates and Hotel rates will vary. Excludes taxes and fees. Advance reservations required. Subject to availability as the number of rooms allocated for this offer is restricted. Limit two (2) rooms per reservation and five (5) people maximum per room. Not valid in combination with any other hotel discounts or offers. Subject to change without notice.

Walt Disney Travel Company CST# 1022229-50

©Disney RST-10-18792

Slow & steady for a quick meal

Spare 15 minutes a few hours before you serve dinner to create this effortless pomegranate-rosemary brisket

Sometimes, low and slow is the best way to deal with a dinner short on time.

Even if dinner takes several hours to cook, but you don't need to do anything to the food during that time, it might as well be a 20-minute meal.

That was the inspiration for this bold, rich roasted brisket with red wine jus.

You start by bashing together fresh rosemary, garlic, salt and black peppercorns. The blend is rubbed over a brisket.

The meat is surrounded by mushroom caps, a quartered onion and a quartered pomegranate. Pop it in the oven and walk away.

When the brisket is done, you set it onto a plate to rest, spoon the mushrooms around it, then strain the liquid in the pot. And that's about it. The pomegranate breaks down during cooking, lending a tart-sweet flavour that complements the salty flavour of the meat. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LARRY CROWE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



▶ This bold and rich roasted brisket is made with mushrooms, onions and pomegranate.

Pomegranate-Rosemary Brisket with Red Wine Jus

Preparation:

1. Heat oven to 150 C (300 F). Drizzle oil over bottom of a Dutch oven.
2. Using a mortar and peselte, spice grinder or small food prosessor, grind together salt, peppercorns, rosemary and garlic until they form a coarse paste.
3. Rub rosemary-garlic blend over bisket, then place meat in Dutch oven. Scatter mushrooms, onion and pomegrnate around meat, then pour wine down side. Cover pot and roast for 2 to 2 1/2 hours or until meat is fork tender.
4. Transfer brisket from pot to a serving platter. Use a slotted spoon to transfer mushrooms to platter. Cover with foil and set aside.
5. Pour liquid in pot through a mesh strainer into a bowl. Discard solids. Return strained liquid to pot and set over medium-high. Simmer until reduced and thickened, about 10 minutes. Serve alongside meat and mushrooms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients:

- 15 ml (1 tbsp) olive oil
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) kosher salt
- 7 ml (1/2 tbsp) whole peppercorns
- 2 sprigs fresh rosemary, leaves only
- 3 cloves garlic
- 1 kg (2 1/4 lbs) brisket, trimmed of fat
- 250 g (8 oz) baby portobello mushrooms
- 1 medium yellow onion, quartered
- 1 pomegranate, quartered
- 250 ml (1 cup) red wine

MEMBERS GET
UNLIMITED TALK & TEXT WITH NO ZONE RESTRICTIONS.
Get it all with no fixed-term contract.
$50/mo. gets you:
• Unlimited Local Calling
• Unlimited Text
• No Zone Restrictions!
DEMAND THE VIRGIN MOBILE SUPERTAB virginmobile.ca/unlimited60
EXCLUSIVE
SAMSUNG GRAVITY™ 3 $0
SAMSUNG GRAVITY™ TOUCH $49.99
Virgin mobile
IT'S BETTER TO BE A MEMBER
Available on talk and text phones in select provinces only. Some phone models and colours may not be available at retailers.
THE SOURCE FUTURE SHOP Walmart BEST BUY LONDON DRUGS Visions ELECTRONICS WIRELESSWAVE booth wireless WIRELESS etc... COSTCO WHOLESALE
All pricing and plans are subject to change without notice. Cannot be combined with any other offers unless otherwise indicated. Prices require activation on the Virgin Mobile SuperTab™. For the full details go to virginmobile.ca/super. Taxes extra. Retailers may sell for less. "Virgin Mobile" and the Virgin Mobile logo are trade-marks of Virgin Enterprises Ltd. and used under license by Virgin Mobile Canada. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners and used with permission.

Fighting for family

Who wins in the never ending tug-of-war between work obligations and family? Know when – and when not – to ask for a few days off

Workplace Law

DANIEL LUBLIN
IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN LLP.
DAN@TORONTO EMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM



At the end of the day someone has to pick up the kids – plain and simple. But what happens if your employer changes a term or condition of your employment that prevents you from doing so? It may be irritating, but is it discrimination?

Human rights legislation suggests it might be.

In almost every province, employers are prohibited from discriminating against employees on the basis of "family status," which is generally defined as being in a parent and child relationship.

However, this is a developing area of law, and balancing an employer's right to govern the workplace with an employee's parental obligations is an ongoing power struggle.

Employers expect employees to show up regularly and perform the duties and responsibilities of their position.

Further, employers can set hours of work and schedule shifts. Family status issues arise when the employer changes a condition of employment that causes serious interference with an employee's parental obligations. In these cases, an employee may require accommodation.

That said, not all workplace changes will result in discrimination and the need for accommodation. The "test" is a change that causes interference with a parental obligation outside the scope of ordinary child care requirements.

Examples include an employee who required specific post-natal scheduling changes and an employee whose child had a medical condition that necessitated special after-school care.

Conversely, discrimination has not been found where an employee was unable to relocate to a new job site due to a complex custody arrangement, where there were other reasonable child care alternatives available, or where the employer's change prevented an employee from attending his child's extra-curricular activities.

If an employee requests accommodation based on family status, employers should ask what special circumstances exist, provide no more than the minimum amount of time off, and remind the employee that this time off is unpaid.

An employee who requests accommodation must be mindful that that accommodation will only be granted if extraordinary circumstances present themselves.

And these extraordinary circumstances do not include attending your daughter or your son's hockey games.

Customer Service Representative

Ability to perform Multi-Task, evaluate performance records. Earn $300 weekly.

Send resumes to **chrisgriffin10101@att.net**

CHRISTI

HAVE FUN MAKING MONEY AS AN ACTOR OR MOVIE EXTRA ON CALGARY FILMS!

CONTACT Nikita (403)-521-0077

NEW IN DOWNTOWN!
LONDON BARBERS



OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
9:00am-7:00pm
403.457.4545



1108 4 STREET SW CALGARY

DISTRIBUTION AUDITOR

Metro Calgary is seeking a full-time Distribution Auditor to be a part of our local team.

Reporting initially to the Publisher (and then to the Distribution Manager), this candidate will possess an understanding of distribution concepts and procedures and should be able to analyze operations for efficiency and accuracy.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Review all distribution locations within the city (boxes and dealers) for accuracy and quality
- Review the procedures and efficacy of our distribution contractors and hand-promoters, ensuring they are adhering to Metro's policies.
- Seek and implement new distribution opportunities and locations within the general area

REQUIREMENTS OF THE POSITION:

- Knowledge of distribution strategies for news/print media preferred
- Strong reporting skills using Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel
- Strong computer and email skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work at irregular hours (some evening work required)
- Assertive self-starter with own vehicle
- An adequate team player with an adaptable attitude

Individuals interested and having the skills described are requested to submit their resume and cover letter via email to hr@metronews.ca no later than December 17, 2010. PLEASE QUOTE: "DISTRIBUTION AUDITOR - CALGARY" in the subject line. All submissions will be treated as confidential.

metro

CITY PRINT DISTRIBUTION INC.
DISTRIBUTORS OF METRO CALGARY

DISTRIBUTION DRIVERS

Applications are now being accepted for distribution drivers. If you are experienced, dependable, with references and have a reliable larger sized vehicle, the following position may be for you:

VENDING BOX AND DEALER DISTRIBUTION:

- Monday – Friday only: 1:00 am – 8:00am (all weekends and holidays off)
- No Home Delivery – No Collections – No Sales Calls
- Regular payment every two weeks.
- Long Term Contract for proven, dedicated service performance.

Highest competitive rates paid in the industry. For more detailed information on our next growth opportunity and to have your name placed on our active application file, please call Kevin Schneider today at:

403-510-8224 or e-mail: **kschneider@cityprintinc.com**

FIRST COME – FIRST SERVED – DON'T DELAY CALL TODAY!

Setting up a winning goal

Do you slip back into old habits post-New Year's? Forge ahead with these four simple rules

ADRIANA RIVERA
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

According to Mark Murphy, author of Hard Goals: The Secrets to Getting from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be, "85 per cent of New Year's resolutions are abandoned within 90 days of New Year's."

For 2011, Murphy shows you how to stick with your goals by using some basic rules. He breaks them down into four subgroups: heartfelt, animated, required and difficult.

"A goal has to be heartfelt — you have to have some emotional connection to it. It has to be animated, in that we have to visualize it in our minds. Required means we need to feel some kind of urgency for it. And it has to be difficult, as we perform best when our brains are most awake," he explains.

These four categories add up to the most important goal, what Murphy describes as a "hard goal." These goals are highly achievable and keep a goal-setter motivated.

"The interesting thing is that too often people view goal-setting as a one-shot endeavor," Murphy says. "You set the goal, you forget about it and you expect it to take care of itself. How we feel when we initially start a goal; that motivation can wane."

Murphy also says that setting goals effectively can create happiness, or at least a more positive point of view. "Most people who are great achievers, once they hit a goal, they're always looking for a new goal," he says.

"We found that people who tend to be the happiest are people who keep goals coming."

His advice: "Lay down the foundation by finding a goal that you want to do and find an emotional connection to that goal. You have to find some reason that you care about it."



Mark Murphy shares the key to resolution success in his book Hard Goals.



MÉTIS PROTECTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM

ARE YOU HERO MATERIAL???

If you're a Métis between the ages of 18 - 30, looking for a career in firefighting or policing, the Métis Protective Services Program may be for you.

This program is designed to give you the attitude, skills, knowledge and physical ability to apply for the position of a Professional Firefighter or Police Officer at most major departments in Alberta.

Training includes aptitude training, physical fitness training, interview preparation, station assessment, safety tickets, First Aid/CPR Level C, Canadian Firearms Safety Course, EMR training, and Class 2 license training as required.

Space is limited, so apply today!

Program runs Jan 10th — Mar 31st, 2011
Application Deadline December 17th 2010

To apply or for more information, contact the Métis Employment Services office near you:
1-888-48-MÉTIS (1-888-486-3847)

Sponsored in Partnership:
Métis Employment Services Rupertsland Institute
Canada



Maximize your accounting career potential

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta is offering courses to help you learn the language skills you need to be successful in your accounting career.

If you are an accounting student or accounting professional whose first language is not English, these courses have been specifically designed for you. Learn the basics of Canadian business language (spoken and written) and culture to help navigate through today's complex business world. Courses are offered in both Edmonton and Calgary on Tuesday evenings.

Classes begin January 18
To find out more, or to register, go to **www.albertaCAs.ca.**

CA Chartered Accountants of Alberta



▶ Students placed in mixed ability groups tend to see greater academic success than students placed in low ability groups.

To group or to stream students

Studies show that grouping students based on their academic abilities may be detrimental

"Grouping" by ability, or "tracking" or "streaming" means that students are placed into groups defined by their ability levels.

Students may be grouped by ability either for a subject (for example for mathematics or reading) or for all or almost all their instruction. Students' assignment to an ability group may be temporary, changing during the year, or permanent.

Advocates of grouping by ability claim that it can raise achievement standards, since teachers can target instruction and use resources more effectively. However, research has shown that grouping by ability can have adverse effects on students' attitudes toward school and their self-esteem.

Studies on ability grouping show inequitable outcomes and social consequences.

• It is very difficult to distinguish "ability" from "prior achievement."

• Use of grouping by ability is associated with worse overall student performance.

• Students placed in higher ability groups may perform better but students placed in lower ability groups typically perform worse than in mixed ability groups.

• There is a tendency for lower teacher expectation and lower quality of instruction in lower ability groups.

• For students assigned to low-ability groups, there are negative effects on their self-esteem, motivation and attitudes toward schooling.

Research suggests that students in non-grouped settings, especially for those with lower achievement, have more healthy and positive attitudes toward school than students tend to have in grouped settings.

Researchers advocate using mixed grouping as well as reducing ability grouping in schools, but more important is to focus much attention on improving instruction and curriculum for students of all achievement levels.

COURTESY OF THE CANADIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (CEA) AND THE ONTARIO INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES IN EDUCATION/UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO (OISE/UT)

More details

There are numerous online resources available regarding grouping by ability

For more information go to cea-ace.ca.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - TELECOM SYSTEMS
If you would like to be part of the high tech generation who likes to provide solutions, harness the power of the latest software, go wireless and connect leading edge devices near and far, then the Telecom Systems major is for you.
Join us on Wednesday, December 15 at 7:00 pm in Room MD 215 in the Heart Building.
Call 403.210.4076 or E-mail: lisa.bishop@sait.ca to confirm your attendance or for more information.

BACHELOR OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION SYSTEMS
The BAIS applied degree program in Network Management is a combination of technical and business studies that is designed to give students a unique perspective on this exciting field of study.
Join us on Wednesday, December 15 at 7:00 pm in Room MD 320 in the Heart Building.
Call 403.284.8120 or E-mail: maria.saunders@sait.ca to confirm your attendance or for more information.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES
Now is the time to train in one of SAIT's accelerated, skills-based FAST TRACK Information Technology programs and launch your career as an IT professional in just 8 months!
Seats are available for the following programs:
- Business Intelligence: Data Analysis and Reporting
- Database Administrator
- Technology Infrastructure Management
- Network Technician
- Object-Oriented Software Developer

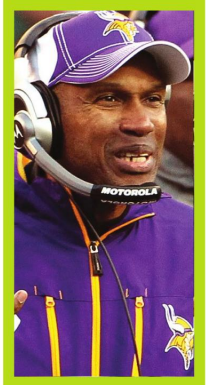
Join us on Wednesday, December 15 at 7:00 pm in Room MD 321 in the Heart Building.
Call 403.284.7149 or E-mail: fast-track@sait.ca to confirm your attendance or for more information.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATION TECHNICIAN
Are you interested in a career in the telecom industry? Then the Telecom Installation Technician program is for you. This 21-week pre-apprentice program is the ideal opportunity to provide you with the job skills and experience needed to gain employment and prepare you for an entry-level career in the Telecom industry.
Join us on Wednesday, December 15 at 7:00 pm in Room MD 215 in the Heart Building.
Call 403.210.4076 or E-mail: telecom@sait.ca to confirm your attendance or for more information.

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES
FURTHER YOUR PASSION
SAIT POLYTECHNIC

4 sports

Quoted



"It looks like there's a chance that we're going to be able to get him back at some point. Hopefully, this week."
VIKINGS INTERIM COACH LESLIE FRAZIER, ON WHETHER BRETT FAVRE WILL PLAY AGAIN.

"Brett, he's an unusual healer. He comes back a lot sooner than others from most injuries. We'll just have to wait and see."
FRAZIER

Scan code for more sports

Extra $30M? Lee doesn't want it

Pitcher rejected richer offer from Yankees in favour of Philadelphia

At some point, it seems, Cliff Lee figured it wasn't about the money anymore. Baseball's hottest free agent could have had $150 million US and a spot on the biggest stage in the game with its most successful team — the New York Yankees, winners of 27 World Series.

Instead, the star pitcher got up from the table and left $30 million behind.

He picked the Philadelphia Phillies, winners of just two titles in more than a century — and a team that brusquely traded him after he led them into the World Series in 2009.

The Phillies will give him $120 million guaranteed over the next five seasons, according to several people in baseball familiar with the deal.

Why does a guy leave all that money behind?

Apparently, because he had all he needed — something that agents and others in the financial end of baseball say happens more than you might expect. Lee and his family liked Philadelphia. Plus, his wife had complained that New York fans were rude and spat at the Rangers' wives during the American League championship series this fall when Lee was pitching for Texas, his other big suitor this offseason.

$100M

Cliff Lee received the sixth $100-million contract for a pitcher, joining the likes of CC Sabathia, Johan Santana and Barry Zito.

Lee's move was the buzz of baseball yesterday. He is expected to take a physical and seal the deal today.

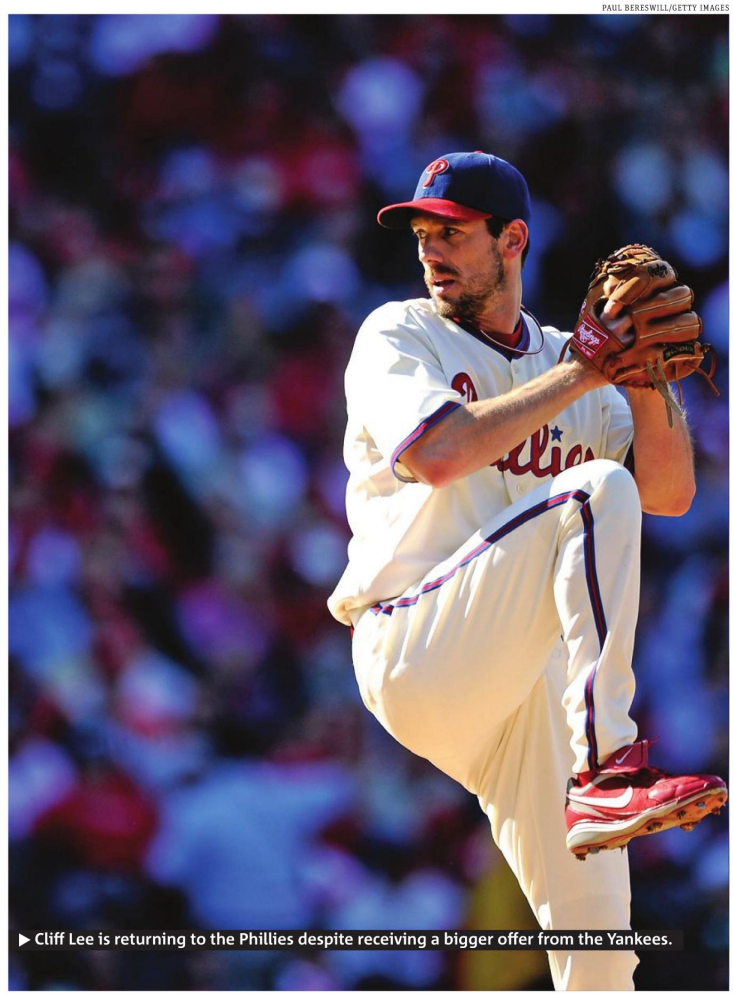
"That's the most I've ever seen a player walk away from," former Mets general manager Omar Minaya said. "It's unprecedented."

The Yankees are used to flexing their financial muscle to land free agents of their choosing. Baseball's top-four salaries this year belong to players in pinstripes: Alex Rodriguez, CC Sabathia, Derek Jeter and Mark Teixeira.

Perhaps the last time a premier free agent turned down this much money relative to his salary was in 1992, when Greg Maddux stayed with the Atlanta Braves for $28 million over five years. He declined a $34-million offer from the Yankees that agent Scott Boras said could have escalated to about $38 million.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PAUL BERESWILL/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Cliff Lee is returning to the Phillies despite receiving a bigger offer from the Yankees.

Opinion

JOHN GRIGG
THE HOCKEY NEWS



AULIE IS THE REAL LOSS FOR FLAMES

Tomorrow night's matchup between two of the NHL's worst teams will be one worth watching if only to see how Calgary fans treat former Flame Dion Phaneuf in his return to the Pengrowth Saddledome.

As everyone surely remembers, Phaneuf was deemed expendable and even a troublemaker last season when he was shipped to Toronto. Lost in the shuffle at the time of the deal was defenceman Keith Aulie, a six-foot-five, 217-pound man-child who played a little over half an American League season last year before having his campaign ended by shoulder surgery. The 21-year-old graduated this year and is now seeing duty with the big club in Toronto.

At the time of the deal, Maple Leafs general manager Brian Burke said he wouldn't have pulled the trigger if Aulie wasn't part of the trade. Toronto fans are now beginning to see why.

And it's ironic that a Flames team dealing from a perceived position of strength back in January 2010 — the blue-line — could now use just what Aulie offers.

He's a shutdown guy with an albatross-like wingspan who once pulled his dad from a frozen pond back home in Rouleau, Sask. And, as he acclimates to the NHL, Aulie has taken to making smart, safe plays and doesn't seem at all awed by the big league.

When Calgary traded for and signed Jay Bouwmeester in June 2009, the Flames vaulted to the top of the D-corps charts. Then they moved the flagging Phaneuf in part because of a rumoured dressing room divide, assuming Bouwmeester would simply take over the role of go-to offensive option.

While divesting themselves of Phaneuf's $6.5-million salary cap hit was a must-do for the Flames, Bouwmeester hasn't exactly stepped up to become an elite offensive defenseman. Neither has Phaneuf, so it's a saw-off there.

But as Aulie continues to progress, Calgary is stuck with regressing talents like Robyn Regehr, Cory Sarich and Steve Staios on the back end.

Maybe Aulie won't become what Regehr once was, but for more than $4 million per season, Regehr is a diminishing asset. Aulie at less than $750,000 is a bargain. Soon the Phaneuf trade will look more like a straight salary dump, one in which Calgary had to give up a top prospect just to foist money onto Toronto's cap.

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Philadelphia	32	20	7	2	3	108	78	45	11-5-0-2	9-2-2-1	6-1-0-3	W3
d-Washington	32	18	11	1	2	98	92	39	12-4-0-2	6-7-1-0	4-5-0-1	L6
d-Montreal	30	18	10	2	0	78	61	38	11-4-2-0	7-6-0-0	5-4-1-0	L2
Pittsburgh	32	21	9	2	0	103	74	44	10-5-1-0	11-4-1-0	9-1-0-0	L1
Atlanta	31	17	11	1	2	99	91	37	9-6-0-1	8-5-1-1	8-2-0-0	W2
NY Rangers	32	18	13	1	0	96	83	37	7-8-1-0	11-5-0-0	6-4-0-0	W1
Boston	28	16	8	1	3	81	56	36	7-5-1-2	9-3-0-1	5-3-1-1	L1
Tampa Bay	30	16	10	2	2	94	106	36	7-2-1-1	9-8-1-1	6-2-0-2	W1
Ottawa	32	13	16	2	1	71	96	29	8-8-1-1	5-8-1-0	3-5-1-1	L1
Carolina	28	12	12	0	4	78	87	28	6-5-0-1	6-7-0-3	3-3-0-4	W1
Buffalo	30	12	14	4	0	78	84	28	6-9-1-0	6-5-3-0	5-4-1-0	L1
Toronto	30	12	14	2	2	69	87	28	8-6-2-1	4-8-0-1	4-5-1-0	W2
Florida	28	13	15	0	0	71	72	26	6-5-0-0	7-10-0-0	3-7-0-0	L1
New Jersey	29	8	19	1	1	53	88	18	4-7-1-1	4-12-0-0	3-7-0-0	L5
NY Islanders	28	5	18	3	2	59	98	15	3-7-1-1	2-11-2-1	1-7-2-0	L6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Detroit	29	19	7	2	1	96	78	41	11-4-1-1	8-3-1-0	6-3-1-0	L1
d-Dallas	30	18	10	0	2	86	82	38	11-3-0-1	7-7-0-1	7-2-0-1	W1
d-Vancouver	28	16	8	2	2	91	74	36	9-3-1-1	7-5-1-1	6-3-1-0	W1
Nashville	29	15	8	4	2	76	70	36	7-1-3-2	8-7-1-0	6-1-1-2	W3
Colorado	30	16	10	4	0	108	95	36	8-4-1-0	8-6-3-0	4-3-3-0	W3
Anaheim	33	16	13	2	2	87	98	36	11-6-0-1	5-7-2-1	6-3-0-1	W2
Los Angeles	28	17	10	1	0	78	65	35	11-2-1-0	6-8-0-0	5-4-1-0	W1
San Jose	30	15	10	4	1	90	87	35	8-4-2-1	7-6-2-0	5-4-0-1	L1
Chicago	32	16	13	2	1	101	96	35	8-8-0-0	8-5-2-1	6-3-1-0	L2
Phoenix	28	14	8	4	2	81	77	34	6-4-2-2	8-4-2-0	6-3-0-1	W1
Columbus	29	16	11	1	1	76	79	34	8-7-0-1	8-4-1-0	3-5-1-1	L1
St. Louis	28	14	9	2	3	72	75	33	9-2-0-2	5-7-2-1	4-4-1-1	L1
Minnesota	29	13	12	1	3	71	86	30	7-6-0-2	6-6-1-1	4-4-1-1	L1
Calgary	31	13	15	1	2	84	19	29	8-6-0-0	5-9-1-2	5-4-0-1	W1
Edmonton	30	11	14	1	4	78	105	27	5-8-1-1	6-6-1-2	6-3-0-1	L2

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Philadelphia 3 Pittsburgh 2
Toronto 4 Edmonton 1
Monday's results
Calgary 3 Columbus 2 (OT)
Atlanta 4 Ottawa 3 (OT)
Colorado 7 Chicago 5
Dallas 3 San Jose 2 (SO)
Los Angeles 5 Detroit 0
Nashville 5 N.Y. Islanders 0
Tonight's games
(All times Eastern)
Boston at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Anaheim at Washington, 7 p.m.
St. Louis at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Carolina at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
San Jose at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Colorado at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Columbus at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

LEAFS 4, OILERS 1

First Period
1. Toronto, Phaneuf 1 (Kessel, Armstrong) 5:55
2. Edmonton, Eberle 7 (Gagner, Whitney) 11:45
Penalty — Armstrong Tor (roughing) 2:01.
Second Period
3. Toronto, Grabovski 9 (MacArthur, Lebda) 8:28 (pp)
4. Toronto, Versteeg 10 (Schenn, Brent) 17:38
Penalties — Brule Edm (elbowing) 2:42, Stortini Edm (kneeing) 6:38, Orr Tor, Stortini Edm (fighting) 12:19, MacIntyre Edm (roughing) 12:29, Edmonton bench (too many men; served by Brule) 14:40.
Third Period
5. Toronto, Kessel 12 (Versteeg, Bozak) 9:47 (pp)
Penalties — Phaneuf Tor (unsportsmanlike conduct) 6:16, Paajarvi Edm (holding) 8:49, Orr Tor, MacIntyre Edm (misconduct) 11:35, Versteeg Tor (elbowing) 15:36, Toronto bench (too many men; served by Kessel) 19:30.
Shots

Toronto	12	13	9	34
Edmonton	12	3	9	24

Goal — Toronto: Giguere (W,8-6-2); Edmonton: Khabibulin (L,7-11-2). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Toronto: 2-5; Edmonton: 0-4.
Att. — 16,839 (16,839) at Edmonton.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Crosby, Pgh	26	27	53
Stamkos, TB	24	20	44
St. Louis, TB	11	26	37
D.Sedin, Vcr	16	20	36
Ovechkin, Wash	12	24	36
Datsyuk, Det	11	25	36
Perry, Ana	16	19	35
H.Sedin, Vcr	5	30	35
B.Richards, Dal	12	22	34
Semin, Wash	18	15	33
Backstrom, Wash	11	22	33
Byfuglien, Atl	11	21	32
Getzlaf, Ana	10	22	32
Sharp, Chi	17	14	31
P.Stastny, Col	13	18	31
Hejduk, Col	11	20	31
Duchene, Col	11	19	30
M.Richards, Pha	11	19	30
Giroux, Pha	15	14	29
Iginla, Cal	14	15	29
Heatley, SJ	13	16	29
Kopitar, LA	13	16	29
Ladd, Atl	10	19	29
Zetterberg, Det	10	19	29
Clowe, SJ	9	20	29
Roy, Buf	9	20	29
Neal, Dal	13	15	28
Toews, Chi	13	15	28
Eriksson, Dal	12	16	28
E.Staal, Car	12	16	28
Selanne, Ana	10	18	28
Dubinsky, NYR	14	13	27
P.Kane, Chi	11	16	27
J.Williams, LA	10	17	27
Havlat, Minn	7	20	27
J.Thornton, SJ	7	20	27
Letang, Pgh	5	22	27
Lucic, Bos	15	11	26
Ryan, Ana	14	12	26
Plekanec, Mtl	9	17	26
Liles, Col	5	21	26
Nash, Clb	17	8	25
Vanek, Buf	13	12	25
C.Stewart, Col	11	14	25
M.Koivu, Minn	6	19	25
Ribeiro, Dal	5	20	25

Not including last night's games

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	19	4	.826	—
d-Miami	18	8	.692	2½
d-Chicago	15	8	.652	4
New York	16	9	.640	4
Orlando	16	9	.640	4
Atlanta	16	10	.615	4½
Indiana	11	12	.478	8
Milwaukee	10	13	.435	9
Charlotte	9	15	.375	10½
Philadelphia	9	15	.375	10½
Toronto	9	16	.360	11
Detroit	8	18	.308	12½
Cleveland	7	17	.292	12½
Washington	6	17	.261	13
New Jersey	6	19	.240	14

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	20	3	.870	—
Dallas	19	5	.792	1½
d-L.A. Lakers	18	7	.720	3
d-Utah	18	8	.692	3½
Oklahoma City	17	8	.680	4
Denver	15	9	.625	5½
New Orleans	14	10	.583	6½
Portland	12	13	.480	9
Phoenix	11	12	.478	9
Memphis	11	14	.440	10
Houston	10	14	.417	10½
Golden State	8	16	.333	12½
Minnesota	6	18	.250	14½
Sacramento	5	17	.227	14½
L.A. Clippers	5	20	.200	16

d-division leader
Last night's results
Charlotte 97 Toronto 91
Philadelphia 82 New Jersey 77
L.A. Lakers 103 Washington 89
Detroit 103 Atlanta 80
Houston 118 Sacramento 105
Denver 111 Orlando 94
Minnesota at Golden State
Monday's results
Miami 96, New Orleans 84
Chicago 92, Indiana 73
Memphis 86, Portland 73
Milwaukee 103, Dallas 99
Utah 108, Golden State 95
Tonight's games
(All times Eastern)
L.A. Lakers at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Boston at New York, 7 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Cleveland at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Houston at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Milwaukee at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Portland at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.

BOBCATS 97, RAPTORS 91

TORONTO (91)
Weems 4-13 0-0 9, Johnson 5-9 2-4 12, Bargnani 4-14 3-5 12, Bayless 6-14 3-4 17, DeRozan 7-14 0-3 14, Davis 3-5 0-0 6, Barbosa 4-11 1-2 12, Kleiza 3-9 2-3 9, Wright 0-0 0-0 0, Dorsey 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 36-89 11-21 91.
CHARLOTTE (97)
Wallace 5-7 6-10 16, Diaw 4-10 1-2 9, Mohammed 8-11 2-5 18, Augustin 4-12 3-4 12, Jackson 3-8 1-1 2 7, Thomas 6-12 2-3 14, K.Brown 5-8 0-0 10, Livingston 2-3 2-2 6, McGuire 0-1 0-0 0, Henderson 0-1 0-0 0, Carroll 2-2 1-1 5, D.Brown 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 39-75 18-29 97.

Toronto	29	24	19	19	91
Charlotte	20	27	25	25	97

3-Point Goals—Toronto 8-26 (Barbosa 3-7, Bayless 2-5, Weems 1-3, Kleiza 1-4, Bargnani 1-4, DeRozan 0-3), Charlotte 1-6 (Augustin 1-2, Jackson 0-2, Diaw 0-2). Fouled Out—Jackson. Rebounds—Toronto 52 (Johnson 12), Charlotte 58 (Mohammed 8). Assists—Toronto 21 (Bayless 9), Charlotte 24 (Augustin 7). Total Fouls—Toronto 23, Charlotte 21. Technicals—Jackson. A—12,482 (19,077) at Charlotte, N.C.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE
DETROIT TIGERS—Released RHP Alfredo Figaro and sold his contract to Orix (Japanese Pacific League).
NEW YORK YANKEES — Agreed to terms with RHP Mariano Rivera on a two-year contract.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Agreed to terms with DH/OF Hideki Matsui on a one-year contract.
TAMPA BAY RAYS — Named Steve Watson pitching coach of Charlotte (FSL) and Neil Allen pitching coach of Durham (IL).
NATIONAL LEAGUE
CINCINNATI REDS—Agreed to terms with OF Jay Bruce on a six-year contract.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS — Agreed to terms with C Dioner Navarro on a one-year contract.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Agreed to terms with 1B Lyle Overbay on a one-year contract.
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Agreed to terms with C Gerald Laird on a one-year contract.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS—Agreed to terms with OF/1B Matt Stairs on a minor league contract.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

ST. PAUL SAINTS—Traded 1B Kris Sanchez to New Jersey (Can-Am) for cash.
WICHITA WINGNUTS—Released INF Cesar Suarez.

CAN-AM LEAGUE

WORCESTER TORNADOES—Traded INF Gordon Gronkowski to Lake Erie (Frontier) for RHP JJ Pacella.

FRONTIER LEAGUE

GATEWAY GRIZZLIES—Signed LHP Justin Zinkovich.
OAKLAND COUNTY CRUISERS—Signed RHP Wayde Kitchens to a contract extension.

BASKETBALL

NBA

MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES — Assigned F DeMarre Carroll to Dakota (NBADL).

LACROSSE

NLL

COLORADO MAMMOTH—Announced the retirement of G Curtis Palidwor.

FOOTBALL

NFL

CAROLINA PANTHERS—Placed G Travelle Wharton, DE Everette Brown and LB Jason Williams on injured reserve. Signed DT Corvey Irvin and CB R.J. Stanford from the practice squad. Signed DT Tommie Duhart to the practice squad.
MIAMI DOLPHINS—Placed OT Vernon Carey on injured reserve. Signed WR Kevin Curtis.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Placed CB Chris Cook on injured reserve. Signed OT Thomas Welch from the practice squad.
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES—Signed DE Derrick Burgess.
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—Placed WR Deon Butler on injured reserve. Signed G Paul Fanaika from Cleveland's practice squad.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS—Placed DT Gerald McCoy and LB Quincy Black on injured reserve. Signed DE George Johnson and LB Tyrone McKenzie from the practice squad.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Released P Hunter Smith. Signed P Sam Paulescu.

CFL

EDMONTON ESKIMOS — Announced special teams coordinator and assistant head coach Noel Thorpe, receivers coach Jason Tucker and defensive backs coach Stacey Hairston will not return next season.

HOCKEY

NHL

ANAHEIM DUCKS—Signed senior vice president of hockey operations David McNab and coach Randy Carlyle to a contract extension through the 2011-12 season.
CAROLINA HURRICANES — Recalled D Bryan Rodney from Charlotte (AHL) on an emergency basis.
NEW JERSEY DEVILS—Placed LW Brian Rolston on waivers. Recalled C Tim Sestito from Albany (AHL).
NEW YORK ISLANDERS—Returned D Dylan Reese and R Rhett Rakhshani to Bridgeport (AHL).
VANCOUVER CANUCKS—Assigned F Guillaume Desbiens to Manitoba (AHL).

SOCCER

MLS

DC UNITED—Signed D Ethan White.

FOOTBALL

NCAA

All Times Eastern
Saturday's games
NEW MEXICO BOWL
At Albuquerque, N.M.
Texas-El Paso (6-6) vs. Brigham Young (6-6), 2 p.m.
HUMANITARIAN BOWL
At Boise, Idaho
Northern Illinois (10-3) vs. Fresno State (8-4), 5:30 p.m.
NEW ORLEANS BOWL
Ohio (8-4) vs. Troy (7-5), 9 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 21
BEEF 'O' BRADY'S BOWL
At St. Petersburg, Fla.
Louisville (6-6) vs. Southern Mississippi (8-4), 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 22
MAACO BOWL
At Las Vegas
Utah (10-2) vs. Boise State (11-1), 8 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 23
POINSETTIA BOWL
At San Diego, Calif.
San Diego State (8-4) vs. Navy (8-3), 8 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 24
HAWAII BOWL
At Honolulu
Hawaii (10-3) vs. Tulsa (9-3), 8 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 26
LITTLE CAESARS PIZZA BOWL
At Detroit
Toledo (8-4) vs. Florida International (6-6), 8:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 27
INDEPENDENCE BOWL
At Shreveport, La.
Georgia Tech (6-6) vs. Air Force (8-4), 5 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 28
CHAMPS SPORTS BOWL
At Orlando, Fla.
North Carolina State (8-4) vs. West Virginia (9-3), 6:30 p.m.
INSIGHT BOWL
At Tempe, Ariz.
Missouri (10-2) vs. Iowa (7-5), 10 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 29
MILITARY BOWL
At Landover, Md.
East Carolina (6-6) vs. Maryland (8-4), 2:30 p.m.
TEXAS BOWL
At Houston
Baylor (7-5) vs. Illinois (6-6), 6 p.m.

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-New England	11	2	0	.846	415	276
N.Y. Jets	9	4	0	.692	273	242
Miami	7	6	0	.538	225	244
Buffalo	3	10	0	.231	256	339

SOUTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Jacksonville	8	5	0	.615	295	331
Indianapolis	7	6	0	.538	347	318
Houston	5	8	0	.385	316	355
Tennessee	5	8	0	.385	291	265

NORTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	10	3	0	.769	290	198
Baltimore	9	4	0	.692	294	229
Cleveland	5	8	0	.385	235	252
Cincinnati	2	11	0	.154	262	345

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	8	5	0	.615	295	268
San Diego	7	6	0	.538	354	253
Oakland	6	7	0	.462	314	307
Denver	3	10	0	.231	269	376

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	9	4	0	.692	329	250
Philadelphia	9	4	0	.692	374	308
Washington	5	8	0	.385	238	310
Dallas	4	9	0	.308	321	366

SOUTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Atlanta	11	2	0	.846	335	243
New Orleans	10	3	0	.769	330	240
Tampa Bay	8	5	0	.615	260	267
Carolina	1	12	0	.077	164	338

NORTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Chicago	9	4	0	.692	253	228
Green Bay	8	5	0	.615	306	189
Minnesota	5	8	0	.385	230	274
Detroit	3	10	0	.231	285	309

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Seattle	6	7	0	.462	261	329
St. Louis	6	7	0	.462	245	268
San Francisco	5	8	0	.385	243	280
Arizona	4	9	0	.308	243	351

x — clinched playoff berth.

WEEK 14

Monday's results
Baltimore 34 Houston 28 (OT)
At Detroit
N.Y. Giants 21 Minnesota 3
Sunday's results
Arizona 43 Denver 13
Atlanta 31 Carolina 10
Buffalo 13 Cleveland 6
Detroit 7 Green Bay 3
Jacksonville 38 Oakland 31
Miami 10 N.Y. Jets 6
New England 36 Chicago 7
New Orleans 31 St. Louis 13
Pittsburgh 23 Cincinnati 7
San Diego 31 Kansas City 0
San Francisco 40 Seattle 21
Tampa Bay 17 Washington 16
Philadelphia 30 Dallas 27
N.Y. Giants at Minnesota (ppd., snow and stadium problems)

WEEK 15

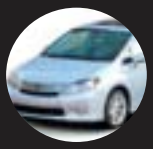
Tomorrow's game
(All times Eastern)
San Francisco at San Diego, 8:20 p.m.
Sunday's games
Kansas City at St. Louis, 1 p.m.
Washington at Dallas, 1 p.m.
Houston at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Arizona at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Buffalo at Miami, 1 p.m.
Jacksonville at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
New Orleans at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
Denver at Oakland, 4:15 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Pittsburgh, 4:15 p.m.
Green Bay at New England, 8:20 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 20
Chicago at Minnesota, 8:30 p.m.

THE BEST THING TO HAPPEN TO THE IPHONE SINCE OUR LAST APP!
NEW Crossword and Suduko updated daily.
Available on the App Store
metro play

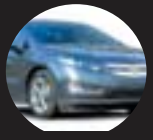

5 drive

By comparison

Lexus HS 250h
Base price: $41,850
Prius-based model adds more power, but is not nearly as fuel-efficient.



Chevrolet Volt
Base price: $47,000 (est.)
Electric motor combines with gas assistant to offer unlimited range.



WHEELBASE MEDIA

Scan code for more car reviews and news

Could Lincoln's new MKZ Hybrid sedan be the most efficient luxury car in North America?



▶ The Hybrid's powertrain is lifted straight from the Ford Fusion and mixes a four-cylinder gas engine with an electric helper motor. The car can actually travel up to 75 kilometres per hour on electric power alone.

A premium hybrid that's worth the hybrid premium

MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

Could the Lincoln MKZ be the poster child for delivering hybrid technology at a down-to-earth price?

Ford's premium Lincoln division touts the new MKZ Hybrid sedan as the most efficient luxury car in North America and brags up its hyper-extended fuel economy. And with a $43,750 price tag, this MKZ also happens to be one of the better buys out there.

The hybrid version of the MKZ is new to the lineup for the 2011 model year, but its drive system was first installed in the Ford Fusion and Mercury Milan (upon which the MKZ is based) for the 2010 model year. At about 1,635 kilograms — about 225 kilograms lighter than Lincoln's larger MKS sedan — the MKZ is an ideal platform to apply the hybrid magic wand.

Of course, the MKZ has to look the part of an upscale contender, and it really does. It might be based on the humble Ford Fusion, but Lincoln's designers have done a solid job sculpting a distinctive front end. A delicately creased hood and jewel-like wraparound headlights frame the brand's signature "waterfall" grille. The taillights and trunk lid have also been dressed up with the Lincoln touch.

The icing on the cake is a cool set of nine-spoke 17-inch alloy wheels that have been fitted with special low-rolling-resistance tires.

You might expect that Lincoln would scrimp a bit on the Hybrid's interior content to maintain price parity with its V6 gas-powered stablemate.

Not at all, actually. This MKZ offers up standard genuine walnut or ash wood trim plus leather-covered seats that are power-adjustable (with memory settings) and heated and cooled in front.

There are also standard backup sensors as well as Ford's Microsoft-powered, voice-activated Sync system that controls a number of communication, entertainment and climate-control functions.

Other unique standard features include a capless fuel filler that makes topping up a one-handed affair, while a keyless entry pad is handy if you're heading to the beach or out for a jog and don't want to bring a set of keys along.

Optional is a power sunroof, voice-activated navigation system, keyless remote start, rear-view camera, blind-spot warning alert and a premium THX-brand audio package.

The Hybrid powertrain consists of a 156-horsepower 2.5-litre four-cylinder engine assisted by a 40-horsepower electric motor. The net power output is 191 horses directed to the front wheels via a continuously variable transmission (CVT).

If the MKZ Hybrid catches on — and it's tough to see how it won't — you can expect other automakers to try and match this Lincoln's impressive fuel economy, features and price point.

MKZ Hybrid

What you should know about the 2011 Lincoln MKZ Hybrid:



- **Type:** Four-door, mid-size, front-wheel-drive, entry-luxury sedan.
- **Engine (hp):** 2.5-litre DOHC I4, combined with an electric motor (191, net).
- **Transmission:** Continuously variable.
- **Stats:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 4.6/5.4.
- **Base price:** $43,750 (Including destination).





DECK THE DRIVEWAY
BOXING WEEK EVENT

BIG TRUCKS, BIG DEALS. LITTLE TIME.

THIS YEAR'S TRUCK – LAST YEAR'S PRICE!

THE NEW 2011 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB SXT 4X4

CANADA'S FASTEST GROWING CHOICE OF LIGHT DUTY PICKUP°

PURCHASE FOR
$26,498•
INCLUDES $8,250 CONSUMER CASH,* $500 FIRST FREE PAYMENT OFFER♦ AND FREIGHT.

2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab Sport shown.§

◊Payments shown include $500 First Free Payment Offer.

OR CHOOSE

$162◊ BI-WEEKLY @ A VARIABLE PRIME RATE OF **3.00%**± FOR 84 MONTHS

OR CHOOSE

CUSTOMER CHOICE FINANCING
$146◊ BI-WEEKLY @ **2.99%**†† FOR 60 MONTHS AND $0 DOWN
WITH THE OPTION TO RETURN AFTER 60 MONTHS

MOVE UP TO A RAM SLT

2011 RAM 1500 SLT
- Remote Keyless Entry • 17" Aluminum wheels
- SIRIUS® Satellite Radio (includes one year of service)
- Temperature and compass gauges
- Premium interior door trim • Overhead console
- Power sliding rear window

AND GET A **NO CHARGE HEMI® ENGINE** OUR GIFT TO YOU

2010 RAM HEAVY DUTY
LEGENDARY CUMMINS® POWER

TURBO DIESEL AVAILABLE



- Ram is the **only** Heavy Duty Diesel pickup in the market that **does not** require a Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) system to meet stringent 2010 emissions requirements
- 350 hp @ 3,000 rpm • Class-Exclusive 6-speed manual transmission
- Best-In-Class low-end torque • Up to 650 lb-ft of torque
- Nobody offers a better diesel engine warranty: 5 years/160,000 km

2010 Ram 3500 Crew Cab Laramie shown.§

OUR GIFT TO YOU **NO CHARGE CUMMINS® TURBO DIESEL ENGINE $9,245 VALUE**

WE'LL MAKE YOUR FIRST PAYMENT UP TO $500♦

CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE RAM

VISIT YOUR ALBERTA CHRYSLER, JEEP®, DODGE, RAM DEALER. RamTruck.ca/Offers

DODGE CARAVAN KIDS PROUD SPONSOR OF AMATEUR HOCKEY ACROSS CANADA

SIRIUS SATELLITE RADIO

Wise customers read the fine print: • ♦ ◊ ± †† § The Deck the Driveway Boxing Week Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating dealers between December 1, 2010 and January 3, 2011. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating dealer for complete details and conditions. • $26,498 Purchase Price applies to 2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (24A+AGR+XFH) only and includes $8,250 Consumer Cash Discount and $500 First Free Payment Offer. See participating dealers for complete details. Pricing includes freight ($1,400) and excludes licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable taxes. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. ♦ The up to $500 First Free Payment Offer includes an amount on account of GST/HST (where applicable) and in the Province of Quebec, GST and QST. Customers may choose to have the up to $500 (including taxes) First Free Payment Offer applied to reduce the selling price after taxes of their new vehicle purchase, rather than to cover their first free payment. Offer is available to all retail customers that purchase a new eligible 2010/2011 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge or Ram from December 1, 2010 through January 3, 2011 (excluding only the following 2010 and 2011 models: Jeep Patriot 4x2/4x4 Sport, Wrangler 2 Door Sport, Dodge Journey SE, Grand Caravan Cargo Van & Canada Value Package, Caliber Canada Value Package & SE Plus, Ram 1500 Regular Cab 4x2 (4A4 and Ram Cab and Chassis)). *Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on most new 2010 and select 2011 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-dealer incentives, which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your dealer for complete details. ◊ Variable Prime Rate financing up to 84 months is offered on approved credit on most new 2010 and 2011 vehicles to qualified retail customers through TD Financing Services. Bi-weekly payments are based on a variable prime rate of 3.00% and a $0 down payment. Taxes, licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable taxes are extra. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. ± 3.00% - 48-60 month term offer is available on approved credit through TD Financing Services and Ally Credit Canada to qualified retail customers on most new 2010 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models (except Grand Caravan Cargo Van and Ram Chassis Cab) and select 2011 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models. The following terms apply to TD Financing Services contracts: **(Different contract terms apply to Ally Credit Canada offers. See your dealer for complete details.)** Maximum financed over a 36 - 48 - 60 - month term with payments amortized over a term of up to 96 months and the pre-determined residual balance payable at the end of the contract. At contract's end, customers have the choice of returning their vehicle through a Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram dealership with no further obligations (except payment of a $199 return fee and excess wear and tear, mileage and similar charges), financing the remaining balance for the rest of the amortization period at then-current standard rates or paying the residual balance in full. Some conditions apply. Customer Choice Financing offered by TD in Quebec is subject to different terms and conditions. All advertised Customer Choice Financing offers are TD offers. Example: 2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (24A+AGR+XFH) with a Purchase Price of $26,498 financed at 2.99% APR over 60 months with payments amortized over 94 months equals 130bi-weekly payments of $146 and one final payment of $10,260 for a cost of borrowing of $2,798 and a total obligation of $29,296. Taxes, licence, insurance, registration, excess mileage and wear and tear charges, any dealer administration fees and other applicable taxes and charges not included. Dealers may sell for less. See participating dealers for complete details. $2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab Sport 4x2 shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discounts and $500 First Free Payment Offer $31,645. 2010 Ram 3500 Crew Cab Laramie 4x2 shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount and $500 First Free Payment Offer $54,245. Pricing includes freight ($1,400) and excludes licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable taxes. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. ‡ Based on calendar year market share gain. °SIRIUS and the dog logo are registered trademarks of SIRIUS Satellite Radio Inc. °Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications LLC, used under licence. Customer Choice Financing is a trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

Last-gen 4Runner a solid bet

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Built for real-world off-road capability and all-season motoring confidence, the Toyota 4Runner has enjoyed generations of success with a loyal following of owners.

The last generation 4Runner was available in the Canadian marketplace from 2003 to 2009 and benefitted from V6 or V8 power, plenty of luxurious options and heaps of aftermarket support for the customization enthusiast. Look for up to 260 horsepower with the V8 engine and an automatic transmission on every model.

As a real SUV (not a crossover or jacked-up station wagon), the 4Runner was engineered and built for off-roading, climbing steep, muddy hills and yanking boats out of the lake. If you don't need the full-out capability of a machine with a transfer-case 4x4 system and heavy-duty truck-frame construction, more fuel-efficient options are available.

Ultimately, the 4Runner is most appropriate for those seeking off-road adventure, planning to hit the trails, or looking to build a gnarly off-road rig. Look for feature content including a sunroof, driver computer, heated leather, premium audio and much more.

What Owners Like

Last-generation 4Runner owners rate cargo capacity, driving confidence and rugged styling most highly. A comfortable and quiet ride is also frequently reported.


▶ Toyota 4Runner

What Owners Hate

Most owners love their 4Runners, and the majority complain almost exclusively about hefty gas consumption.

Common Issues

Shoppers are advised to ensure the 4Runner's previous owner tackled any and all off-road driving carefully. Taking a machine like the 4Runner into some dirt and mud won't hurt it — but doing it carelessly might.

Get underneath and check for heavy denting or scrapes in the floor and frame rails.

These may be formed by contact with rocks or logs during careless navigation of rough trails, and could be a sign of abuse. They could also result in excessive rust.

Other signs of heavy off road use may include excessive mud or sand packed into the vehicle's lower radiator area or underside. Finally, inspect the exterior paint for heavy scratching.

The Verdict

If the used 4Runner you're considering checks out, you're likely looking at a reliable, capable sidekick that'll serve your family for years to come.

The 4-1-1

- **Model:** 2003 to 2009 Toyota 4Runner
- **Vehicle type:** 4x4
- **Approximate used price range:** $11,000 to $32,000

CHANGING TIMES: MAKING A CAR WITH SUNSHINE

Auto Pilot

MIKE GOETZ
DRIVE@METROEWS.CA



There's more to a vehicle than metal. And chances are if it's not metal, it's something created from petroleum — like plastic trim and polyester fibre.

But times are a changing.

Consider this quote on Ford's website, attributed to Cynthia Flanigan, a technical expert with Ford Plastics Research: "Whenever petroleum-based materials exist — in plastic, rubber, foam, film or fabric — we are looking to minimize its proportion and replace it with a sustainable material."

A "sustainable material" would either be a plant-based material and/or a recycled material.

Ford has been using soy-based foam for car seats for a few years now (starting on the 2007 Mustang). It recently expanded its soy-foam portfolio to the industry's first soy-foam headliner on the 2010 Escape.

And among Ford's recycled materials initiatives are seat fabrics made with varying degrees of post-industrial yarns, suede-like material created from plastic pop bottles (Taurus SHO and Lincoln MKZ), and sound deadening and carpet backing fashioned in part from old blue jeans (2012 Focus).

While recycling efforts are useful and necessary, the cooler science projects are happening with bio-based materials. Tractor manufacturer John Deer is already using corn-based polymers for certain body panels, and Canada's own Motive Industries says it will build its new electric car with body panels made of Alberta-grown hemp.

There are also R&D initiatives to make bio-based plastics to replace some metal parts in the engine department.

To stand up to the heat, these parts would have to be made up of a bio-plastic hybrid — something plant (like castor beans) and something nylon perhaps.

But in addition to all these "green" benefits, using plants to build cars can also be a fashion statement.

Consider the recently announced BamBoo, which Rinspeed, a Swiss auto design firm, will unveil at this spring's Geneva auto show. It's called BamBoo because many interior components are made from bamboo fibre. Rinspeed's press release says the open-top electric-powered concept car "awakens the longing for sun and summer; for lightness and easiness; and the desire to be at the beach."

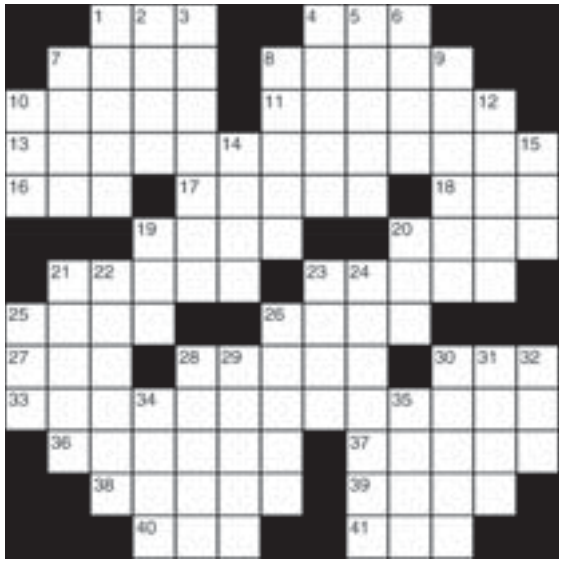
And it gets better: "It is a reminiscence of the 70s, of the south of France and St. Tropez. And one would expect to find Brigitte Bardot behind the wheel with playboy Gunther Sachs at her side heading toward Tahiti beach."

Rinspeed figures that retro and greeness go good together, like wine and cheese, claiming that its old-new design creations are about channeling "the yearning to get back to the roots, paired with the absolute desire to be in harmony with creation."

May be a highfalutin way of expressing the sentiment, but probably not a totally off-base one for a lot of people.



Crossword



Across
1 Part of a Halloween costume
4 You say it to the doctor
7 Femur or fibula
8 Related to birds
10 Soft chapeau
11 "Dueling" instruments
13 Burroughs duo
16 Distorted
17 Witticisms
18 Fish eggs
19 Inlet
20 Out of control
21 Investigate
23 Brittle
25 Three- — sloth
26 Objective
27 Mimic
28 Chef's garb
30 "Wham!"
33 Stevenson duo
36 Closed up tight
37 Broadcast
38 Small amounts
39 Caustic solutions
40 Sandra or Ruby
41 Remiss

Down
1 Fret
2 Noted 1966 hurricane
3 1958 No. 1 hit for the Silhouettes
4 — -garde
5 Harts' mates
6 Muslims' pilgrimage
7 Tolerate
8 Lower in rank
9 Venus de Milo's feature
10 Texter's "incidentally"
12 Pry
14 Actress Campbell
15 Hair-raising shriek
19 Massachusetts cape
20 Have a bug
21 Vatican VIPs
22 Stunk
23 Maine — (breed of cat)
24 TV's Felix Unger
25 — Mahal
26 Alumni
28 Sitcom oldie, "Kate & —"
29 Academy freshman
30 Heat-resistant glass
31 Tributes in verse
32 Marry
34 Three feet
35 Informal greeting

▶ Yesterday's answer



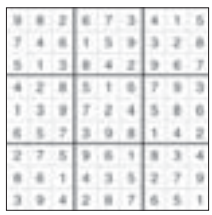
Sudoku

					8	3		6
3	7		5	9				4
	6							
1		3			2	6		
4								2
		8	3			4		5
							4	
9				5	1		2	7
2		4	8					

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶



Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

Cristina, i feel so lucky to be with you. I am excited for all the great memories we are going to make during these holidays.
LOVE , YOUR MAN, ARTHUR

Ashley & Amy, You are two amazing young ladies and I am blessed to have you as my sisters. Enjoy your 12 days of Christmas ;)
LOVE, OMA

Happy 3 yr Anniversary Mi Amor. You are a friend for always and life. You had me at one dance. Knowing you was all my pleasure. I just want you to know that you are my teasure. Stay sweet and caring always. I will always and forever love you.
L.F.A.A.

Sending all my love on this wintery morning. Growing old and wrinkly together is going to be quite the adventure and I feel so lucky to be doing it with you. **BORK!**

A look at the weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Min -4° Max 1°	Min -13° Max -11°	Min -20° Max -13°

Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist
"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta". **WEEKDAYS 6AM**

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION



Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Reach out to employers today. If they make promises, get them to put them in writing. What they agree to today may not be what they want to do tomorrow.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 The more you expect of other people today, the more disappointed you are likely to be. Saying something and doing it are two entirely different things, so don't count your chickens just yet.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 The planets warn if you act too fast today you are likely to do more harm than good. No matter how bad things may seem, there is still time to think before you take action.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 If you suspect that someone is not being completely truthful today, don't make a big fuss about it. Sooner or later, he or she will let you know what's going on.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 You may be thinking about a career change but the planets urge you to sleep on the idea. Chances are you are not thinking straight. The next few days will bring new opportunities, so don't change yet.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 This is not really the best time to be looking a long way ahead. In fact, you should be looking at what is in front of you right now. The next step you take is the one that matters.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Put your worries out of your head and start believing that your dream will come true. Success is as much about imagination as it is about hard work.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 You can be judgmental at times, but today you must make a conscious effort not to be critical. You don't have to like what a friend or relative is doing but you have to accept that it's the right move for him or her.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 As a Fire sign, you are no stranger to taking risks. Over the next two or three days, you will be tempted to do things that most people would never attempt. But that's why you are special.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Make sure that any claims you make are backed by facts. Sometimes it can be fun to make things up, but you will lose others' trust and respect if you try it today.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 You have an envious ability to see further and deeper than most people. But are you making good use of it? Shouldn't you be helping others see the truth, too?

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 You have suspicions that someone is telling you lies; but how do you prove it? Maybe it's not worth the effort. Thank them for their advice — and do what you were going to do anyway.
SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

JERRY HOLT/AP/THE STAR-TRIBUNE



WIN!

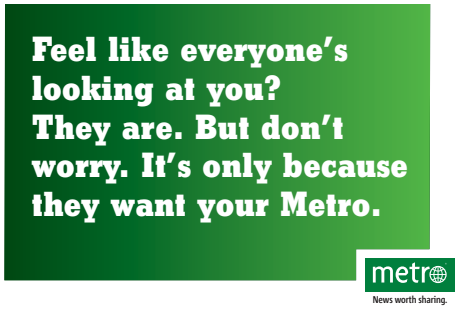
You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

KHALIL HAMRA/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/FILE










FUR
SALON
Holiday Fur Sale
DECEMBER 15TH – 24TH
SAVE up to 70%
on our entire collection
of the newest furs,
sheared mink,
minks, shearlings,
fur trimmed outerwear
and more!
SHOP EARLY FOR BEST SELECTION
the Bay
Calgary Downtown Store
3rd Floor, (403) 264-2525